SCTC No. 4

# COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

## (FOURTH LOK SABHA)

## THIRD REPORT

## DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE

*Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Students for Studies in India*

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI
*December, 1969/Agrahayana, 1891 (S)*
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## COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

Shri D. Basumatari—*Chairman*

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*Rajya Sabha*

21. Shri M. V. Bhadram
22. Shri Ganeshi Lal Chaudhary
23. Shri K. S. Chavda

*Resigned from the Committee with effect from December 9, 1969.

24. Shri B. T. Kemparaj
25. Shri B. D. Khobaragade
26. Shri Dayaldas Kurre
27. Shri Lokanath Misra
28. Shri Neki Ram
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30. Shri Man Singh Varma.

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri B. K. Mukherjee—*Deputy Secretary.*
2. Shri J. R. Kapoor—*Under Secretary.*

# INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman, Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes having been authorised by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Third Report on the Department of Social Welfare—Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Students for studies in India.

2. The Committee took the evidence of the representatives of the Department of Social Welfare, Planning Commission and the Ministries of Finance, and Education & Youth Services, on the 22nd August, 1969. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the Additional Secretary and Joint Secretary, Department of Social Welfare; Secretary and Joint Director, Planning Commission; Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Joint Educational Advisor, Ministry of Education and Youth Services, for placing before them material and information they wanted in connection with the examination of the subject.

3. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee on the 2nd December, 1969.

4. A summary of conclusions|recommendations contained in the Report is appended (Appendix XI).

D. BASUMATARI,
*Chairman,*
*Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.*

NEW DELHI;
*December* 9, 1969.
*Agrahayana* 18, 1891 (*Saka*).

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTORY

1.1. In 1944 the Government of India instituted a special scheme for the award of scholarships to the Scheduled Caste students to enable them to pursue post-matriculation studies in scientific and technical subjects. The scheme was restricted to the British-Indian Provinces only, and for that purpose an annual grant of Rs. 3.00 lakhs was made for a period of 5 years beginning from the year 1944-45, the unspent balance in each year being carried forward to the next year. *Ad hoc* grants to the extent of about Rs. 2.00 lakhs were also made in the year 1947-48 and 1948-49 for the purpose. During the five years from 1944-45 to 1948-49, as many as 2,235 scholarships for study in India had been awarded to the Scheduled Caste students at a total cost of Rs. 1,721,680. The schemes was extended to Scheduled Tribes in 1948-49.

1.2. Since the year 1952-53 scholarships are being awarded to all the eligible Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students on the basis of merely passing the last University Examination irrespective of the class|division obtained. The scheme was centrally operated by the Ministry of Education upto the year 1958-59. That Ministry received applications from the candidates and the scholarships were awarded to the candidates directly.

1.3. There was a Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes Scholarships Board to advise the Ministry in the various aspects of the scheme. The Board was constituted every year. It consisted of eleven members (eight non-officials and three officials) headed by a Chairman, who was the Minister of State, Ministry of Education and Scientific Research, and assisted by the Under Secretary (Scholarships), who served as the Secretary of the Board. Of the 11 members on the Board, eight were Members of Parliament, who were recommended by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and the remaining three were official members—the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, a representative of the Ministry of Finance and the Deputy Secretary (Scholarships), Ministry of Education and Scientific Research.

1.4. It has been stated by the Department of Social Welfare in a written note that as the number of students seeking the scholarships

had become very large, it become difficult for the Ministry of Education to deal with the work at one place. This resulted in delays in the award of scholarships. Hence mainly to avoid delays, the scheme was decentralised in 1959-60 and the work regarding the calling for applications, their scrutiny and drawal and disbursement of scholarships amount was entrusted to the State Governments|Union Territory Administrations. While the State Governments were implementing the scheme in their respective States, the Ministry of Education was generally controlling it by framing rules and regulations, and also financing the scheme which is now a Centrally sponsored scheme.

1.5. After the decentralisation of the scheme, the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes Scholarships Board was abolished.

1.6. It has further been stated that as the Ministry of Education were not able to secure additional funds over and above the expenditure incurred during 1958-59 to cover all eligible Scheduled Caste| Tribe students, the Ministry of Home Affairs (now the Department of Social Welfare), who were incharge of Backward Classes Welfare at the Centre, themselves undertook to supplement the Education Ministry's provision for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes scholarships only from their Plan budget. However, in the case of other Backward Classes scholarships, the Central allocation was kept constant at the level of expenditure incurred by the Education Ministry in 1958-59 on this category.

1.7. After decentralisation, the scholarships are awarded and paid to the students by the Government of the State|Union Territory concerned according to the terms and conditions prescribed by the Ministry of Education|Department of Social Welfare.

1.8. The administration of the post-matric scholarships scheme for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was in the hands of the Ministry of Education. It was transferred to the Department of Social Welfare with effect from January, 1968.

## CHAPTER II

## REGULATIONS FOR GRANT OF POST-MATRIC SCHOLARSHIPS

2.1. A copy of complete regulations prescribed by the Ministry of Education for the award of post-Matric Scholarships to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Denotified Tribes, Nomadic, Semi-Nomadic and Lower Income Group students for studies in India is given in Appendix I.

Some of the important features of these regulations are as under:

(1) All Scheduled Tribe students pursuing recognised post-Matric course through regular and recognised institutions are eligible to receive the scholarships under this scheme without any means or merit tests while in the case of Scheduled Caste students the scholarships are granted subject to a simple means test which denies scholarships to a student whose parent's|guardian's monthly income is more than Rs. 500. For the employed Scheduled Caste students supporting a family the income limit is Rs. 475 p.m. and those not supporting a family, the income limit is Rs. 175 p.m.

(2) Students pursuing post-matric education through correspondence courses are not eligible for these scholarships.

(3) Members of Parliament|Members of State Legislatures|Municipal Commissioners|Members of District Boards|Gazetted Officers are authorised to issue Caste|Tribe certificates for the purpose of these scholarships.

(4) No income certificate is required to be submitted by the Scheduled Caste students. An income declaration by the parents|guardians|students (if employed) stating definitely income from all sources is considered sufficient.

2.2. The Committee desired to know whether any review of the scheme was undertaken by the Department of Social Welfare about the working of the scheme after it was transferred to them. It has been stated by the representative of the Department of Social Welfare during evidence that there have been several criticisms of the

working of the scheme from various quarters and in the light of the criticisms voiced against the scheme a comprehensive review of the whole scheme was undertaken by the Research Unit of the Department of Social Welfare. The details of the review undertaken by the Department of Social Welfare are given below:

"A. Administration

(1) The present division of responsibility between the Ministry of Education and the Deaartment of Social Welfare is not desirable. The scheme should be under the administrative control of one Ministry.

(2) For expeditious disposal of scholarship cases adequate staff should be appointed by the State Department and for this purpose the Central Government should help the State Governments financially.

B. Simplification of application form and procedure etc.

(3) The existing application form is too cumbrous and needs simplification by covering only the essential items of information. The students should be helped in filling up their application forms.

(4) The students are put to hardships in getting caste|tribe and income certificates.

(5) The scholarships should be granted for the duration of the course and not on annual basis. Renewal should be automatic as long as the scholar continues his education in the college and his progress and conduct is satisfactory and for this purpose, the head of the institution can be asked to send annual reports on the scholarship holders.

(6) The system of *ad-hoc* advances and delegation of powers to head of institution for sanctioning scholarships to eligible students need to be adopted by all State Governments| Union Territory Administrations.

(7) The procedure for drawal of scholarships' money from the treasury and its disbursement to the students needs simplification.

C. Revision of rates of scholarships and conditions of eligibility.

(8) The existing rates of scholarships which were fixed more than a decade ago need enhancement in view of the rise in cost of living.

(9) The calculation of scholarships amount which depends on the rates of maintenance charges, tuition fees, games and examination fees etc. is very laborious as the fees vary from institution to institution and sometimes from class to class. It would quicken the grant of scholarships if a flat rate of scholarships covering all such items is prescribed.

(10) To remove inequity, the means test as applied to Scheduled Castes should also be made applicable to Scheduled Tribes.

(11) Gainfully employed persons of advanced age should be barred from securing scholarships for subjects of study wholly unconnected with their existing career, because, in such cases, scholarships are abused as a subsidiary source of income.

(12) Even third class students are eligible for post-matric scholarships. This has resulted in increased educated unemployment amongst the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, discouraged effort and merit, and drained leadership potential in rural areas."

The review undertaken by the Department of Social Welfare has pointed out that the scheme of post-Matric Scholarships has been in operation for a considerable time without any significant change in conditions of eligibility and procedural matters. There has been tremendous growth in the number of students receiving these scholarships and the expenditure incurred thereon. The review concluded with a suggestion that "we may impose means test in respect of Scheduled Tribes also" and "to begin with, we may impose merit test for all categories of backward classes at the post-graduate and doctoral levels."

2.3. On the basis of the review undertaken by the Department of Social Welfare as also after further detailed consideration, a revised scheme of post-matric scholarships was evolved and this was circulated to the State Governments|Union Territory Administrations with the Department of Social Welfare letter No. 1|60|68(RU)SCT-III dated the 29th May, 1969 (Appendix II). A copy of the revised regulations

issued by the Department of Social Welfare on the 29th May, 1969 is given in Appendix III.

2.4. In a note furnished to the Committee, the Department of Social Welfare have stated that the three main changes introduced in the new Resolutions are:—

1. Application of the means test to the Scheduled Tribes also, the ceiling being fixed at Rs. 360 to Rs. 500 p.m.

2. Introduction of an upper age limit of 30 years to new scholarships.

3. Introduction of a merit test of a minimum of 45 per cent marks for post-graduate scholarships.

They have further stated:

"The changes introduced are in fact part of our package programme to simplify and streamline the administration of the scheme and to improve it in content. The object was to adopt a selective approach and thereby strengthen our support to the popular demand for the enhancement of the scholarship rates. The selective approach in its application, particularly to the post-graduate level of education has the objective also of keeping within bounds the numbers of educated unemployed. It is public knowledge that the employment market has shrunk in recent years, and there are now nearly 10,000 engineering graduates who are unemployed.

It is the considered opinion of the Department that it would be more purposeful to concentrate attention on the more deserving in their pursuits of higher education than to spread our resources thinly by assisting all students equally at all levels of education.

A person who cannot complete his educational career before he is 30 years of age, or who cannot merit even 45 per cent in the graduation course, obviously cannot be expected to develop scholastic proficiency merely by persisting in studies. Such persons can instead settle down to some profession consistent with their qualifications and efficiency. Instead of pursuing such uncertain cases, it will be worthwhile to concentrate our efforts on the bright students who can be expected to fare reasonably well in their scholistic pursuits. The high achievements of such stu-

dents will have a greater impact of our welfare efforts and inspire the rest of the community to strive for better achievements in life.

We have to adopt this approach inevitably because of the overall resource limitations. There was a need to enhance the scholarship rates; but, the financial requirement was proving to be beyond our reach. Some restrictions had per force to be introduced so as to apply the available resources to the best use. The savings likely to accrue from this selective approach will partially defray the additional expenditure that an enhancement of rates will cause. On the strength of these restrictions we are now pressing our claim for enhancing the rates.

The Minister of Law and Social Welfare is devoting personal attention for getting an expeditious clearance for the enhancement of the rates. He has in fact taken up this matter personally with the Prime Minister who is now incharge of the Finance portfolio. Our proposal is for a substantial increase of the rates."

2.5. The conditions of eligibility in the revised scheme of post-matric scholarship scheme evoked considerable criticism both inside and outside Parliament. On the 2nd July, 1969, there was an unstarred question in the Lok Sabha by Shri S. M. Solanki, M.P. on the new scheme of post-matric scholarships. The text of the question as well as the answer given by the Deputy Minister of Social Welfare are reproduced below:

"211. SHRI S. M. SOLANKI:

Will the Minister of Law and Social Welfare be pleased to state:

(a) the latest change with regard to the grant of scholarships, freeships and fixing of age limit to enter post-Graduate studies for the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students;

(b) whether it is a fact that the new rules applicable to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students, who desire to enter post-Graduate studies, will stop them from further education;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students will not be able to study further if persons, who are 30 years of age or over, are not allowed to get any scholarships or freeships; and

(d) the reasons for curtailing the facilities?

ANSWER

DEPUTY MINISTER FOR SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI J. B. MUTHYAL RAO):

(a) The main changes have been:

(i) The introduction of an upper age limit of 30 years beyond which none will be eligible for fresh awards of scholarship.

(ii) The simplification of the graded means test and its application to the Scheduled Tribes also.

(iii) The prescription of a merit test requiring candidates to secure at least 45 per cent marks in the last qualifying examination for purposes of scholarship awards at the post graduate levels of study.

(iv) The provision of annual block grants varying between Rs. 300 and Rs. 480 towards fees, purchase of text books, etc. in addition to the monthly maintenance charges.

(b), (c) and (d). The changes have been introduced with a view to promote a purposeful approach towards education and to discourage any tendency to treat the scholarships as a means of livelihood. They have been designed to eliminate wastages and enable equitable distribution of available funds to the most needy and deserving who will continue to benefit under the scheme for completing a purposeful education career."

2.6. The attention of the Minister of Law and Social Welfare was drawn by the Chairman of the Committee to the restrictive conditions introduced in the grant of post-matric scholarships and he was requested to withdraw the regulations immediately. The Minister of Law and Social Welfare informed the Chairman that he had stayed the operation of the new regulations and had issued instructions to the State Governments and the authorities concerned. The following telegram was issued by the Department of Social Welfare to all concerned:

"No. 9|33|69-SCT.III dated 31st July, 1969 Enforcement of new Regulations governing post-matric scholarships scheme is stayed until further orders (.) The old regulations will therefore continue to be in operation (.) Scholarships during 1969-70 may be awarded on the same basis as hitherto (.) Our scheme will however apply only to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (.) Decision regarding committed expenditure remains unchanged (.) Inconvenience caused is sincerely regretted (.)"

2.7. The Committee took note of the sentence 'Decision regarding committed expenditure remains unchanged' in the above telegram of the Department of Social Welfare and asked the Department of Social Welfare to clarify the exact implication of the above sentence. The Committee have been informed by the Department of Social Welfare that—

"This decision was taken in accordance with the principles of planning and, at the instance of the Planning Commission and the Finance Ministry. This procedure is uniformly adopted with reference to all developmental sectors. There need, however, be no apprehension that the scholarship facilities will suffer curtailment consequent upon this 'commitment'. According to the established procedure, items which are 'committed' from Plan to non-Plan are taken into account by the Finance Commission while finalising proposals for the devolution of resources between the Centre and the States. In fact, the Department of Social Welfare had agreed to this 'commitment' only subject to the understanding that the Finance Commission will specifically take note of this item of expenditure. The attention of the Finance Commission has also been drawn to this fact by the Planning Commission. The Finance Commission had collected from the Department of Social Welfare the State-wise details of expenditure on post-matric scholarships. In other words, this is more a matter of budget classification and there need be no apprehension at this stage, of a stoppage of the scholarship facilities. It will be appreciated that since this was a decision taken in pursuance of a general policy of Financial Administration, it does not lie within the power of the Department of Social Welfare to unilaterally revoke it."

2.8. The correspondence exchanged between the Chairman of the

Committee and the Department of Social Welfare is reproduced in Appendix IV.

2.9. The new scheme of post-matric scholarships was also the subject of a Calling Attention Notice in Rajya Sabha on the 31st July, 1969, and there was also a discussion in Lok Sabha on the 12th August, 1969, raised by Shri Suraj Bhan, a Member of the Committee. During the course of proceedings in both Houses the Minister of Law and Social Welfare announced that the Government would await the Report of the Parliamentary Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on this matter and would reconsider the whole question in the light of the Report to be received. He also anneuced that he had stayed the operation of the new scheme of post-matric scholarships. The statement made by the Minister in Rajya Sabha in response to the Calling Attention Notice is given at Appendix V.

2.10. The *raison d'etre* of the changes effected in the old Regulations and the views of the Committee on some of the new conditions of eligibility are discussed separately in this report.

## CHAPTER III

## FINANCING OF THE SCHEME

3.1. In the budget of the Ministry of Education, the ceiling of expenditure fixed for this scheme for Scheduled Castes every year since 1958-59 was Rs. 125 lakhs and for Scheduled Tribes Rs. 21 lakhs. From 1959-60, the year of decentralisation onwards, this amount is treated as committed Non-Plan expenditure. To Aenable the State Governments/Union Territory Administration to award scholarships to all eligible Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students, their requirements of additional funds, over and above the amount provided by the Ministry of Education, are met by the Department of Social Welfare from their Plan Provision for the welfare of Backward Classes. A statement showing the number of scholarships awarded and the expenditure incurred from the year of inception of the scheme in 1944-45 to 1965-66 is given in Appendix VI.

3.2. It will be seen from the figures given in the Appendix VI that in 1944-45, 114 scholarships were granted to Scheduled Castes and the expenditure was Rs. 47,697. In 1948-49, the number of Scheduled Tribes students awarded scholarships was 84 and the expenditure incurred was Rs. 45,986. The number of scholarships for Scheduled Castes went upto 90,264 in 1966-67 and to 1,03,128 in 1967-68. The number of scholarships in respect of Scheduled Tribes went upto 17,760 in 1966-67 and to 19,830 in 1967-68. The expenditure incurred was to the tune of Rs. 4,37,66,443 in respect of Scheduled Castes and Rs. 83,83,622 in respect of Scheduled Tribes in 1966-67.

3.3. A State-wise distribution of the award of post-Matric scholarships during the last three years is given in Appendix VII. A statement showing the expenditure incurred on post-Matric Scholarships awarded to Scheduled Castss and Scheduled Tribes in the three Plan periods is given in Appendix VIII.

3.4. The Planning Commission in a note furnished to the Committee has stated:

> "In the Third Plan, the outlay on the scheme was Rs. 5.60 crores while expenditure was Rs. 9.48 crores. In 1966-67 and 1967-68 the outlays were Rs. 1.68 crores and Rs. 2.54 crores, respectively and the expenditure was Rs. 3.76 crores

and Rs. 4.60 crores, respectively. The actual expenditure were higher than the outlays because, under the present rules, every eligible Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe student is to be paid the scholarship and the expenditure incurred by the State Governments is reimbursed by the Department of Social Welfare at the Centre."

3.5. It has further been stated by the Planning Commission that the outlay of the scheme for the Fourth Plan is Rs. 11 crores. This is in addition to what would be available for the scheme as "committed expenditure" for awarding post-Matric scholarships since the level of expenditure on the scheme in 1968-69 is to be treated as Committed non-Plan expenditure of the State Governments in the Fourth Plan.

3.6. Asked to explain the significance of the words 'Committed Non-Plan Expenditure' and the reasons for treating the post-matric scholarships amount as "Committed Non-Plan Expenditure" the representative of the Planning Commission has stated during evidence:

"Since the beginning of the First Five Year Plan, the system followed is that the level of expenditure reached at the end of a particular Plan is treated as a 'Committed Non-Plan Expenditure' for the future. Only the increase over that level is treated as a Plan Expenditure. The whole idea behind this is that the Plan Expenditure is intended to show the growth that has taken place but it is not intended to indicate the level of expenditure at a particular point of time. So, at every stage when a level is reached, that is transferred to the Non-Plan Expenditure. Then the addition to it is taken as a 'Plan Expenditure' in the next Plan, Thus, the transfer is made to the Non-Plan Expenditure and then the next addition is taken. That is how it goes on. This is not only in respect of expenditure in regard to this particular scheme but this applies to all the other schemes in other sectors also—whether it is agriculture, education, health, social welfare or any other sector of expenses. It is also immaterial whether the scheme is in the Central Sector or in the State Sector but when a level is reached of a particular scheme, that is transferred to Committed Non-Plan Expenditure. With regard to this, the State Government raised the question that if this level of expenditure is now to be transferred to Non-Plan Expenditure whether they will get the resources for this purpose.

Precisely, for this particular consideration, in the last few years there has been a system to set up Finance Commissions more or less concurrent with the Plan period. The Finance Commission is particularly requested to take into account that this will be an additional burden that will be transferred on the State Government's Non-Plan budget and the Finance Commission is requested to take this into consideration while fixing their scheme of devolution of funds between the Centre and the States."

3.7. In reply to a question as to what was their difficulty if it was treated as Plan Expenditure, the representative of the Planning Commission has stated that then it might not indicate the growth at all. Explaining further as to why this was not being treated as a Non-Plan Expenditure of the Central Government the representative of the Planning Commission has stated:

"There will be a possibility of double payment to the State Governments. If the Finance Commission has already taken into account this expenditure of Rs. 7 crores and transferred Rs. 7 crores on this consideration to the State Governments and we treat this as a Non-Plan expenditure of the Central Government on which another Rs. 7 crores will be spent, the State Governments will have already received Rs. 7 crores and another Rs. 7 crores will flow to them."

3.8. In reply to a further question as to who provided the funds, the representative of the Planning Commission has stated:

"This comes from the Centre's resources which are transferred to the States. This is how the income-tax, Central Excise Duty, grants-in-aid, etc. are transferred to the States. The devolution which takes place on the recommendation of the Finance Commission is just to meet the level of expenditure reached at any particular point of time with regard to the normal expenditure of a State Government. That is taken into account by the Finance Commission by devolution of income-tax, Central Excise Duties, special Grants-in-aid. Under the Constitution, the Presidential distribution Order is issued and then the Ministry of Finance starts implementation of it. The transferred expenditure is kept for the future."

3.9. The representative of the Planning Commission has further informed the Committee during evidence that they had written to the

State Governments to put their case before the Finance Commission. They had also written to the Finance Commission asking them to take this expenditure into account.

3.10. Asked to state why it had been made applicable now after three Five Year Plans, the representative of the Planning Commission has stated:

> "Till some years ago, this was the Central scheme. Now it is not a Central scheme. It is a Centrally sponsored scheme. During the last Plan the State Governments did not put forward their case in this regard. The Central Government agreed to treat this as Plan expenditure of this period. Now we have made it abundantly clear to the Finance Commission: that 'this is the expenditure, this is the level; please take this into account when you are transferring the resources from the Centre to the States. The point I wish to emphasise is that Government not only are transferring the burden, but it is also proposed to transfer the resources."

3.11. Asked to state whether they were sure that any fund that was allotted for one purpose was utilised by the State Governments for that particular purpose only and not diverted to other heads, the representative of the Planning Commission has observed:

> "The alternative would be that this amount should not be transferred to the States and retained in the Centre and then the Centre should distribute."

Continuing further he has stated:—

> "These are issues which should be considered by the Government as to what should be done. It will be difficult for Government to take any decision in the matter unless the Finance Commission's recommendations are known. If the Finance Commission has actually taken this into account and has transferred to the States certain sums of money then the Central Government would consider whether to withdraw that money and keep in their hands as an expenditure on this scheme. That is a difficult thing. I am not able to answer the question."

He has further stated:

> "The views of the Chief Ministers expressed in the National Development Council were in regard to entire Planning

process. That is, the money should be transferred to them without restrictions and they must be given complete freedom to distribute as they like. I want to touch the other two points which were raised in the discussion. The question was raised about an earlier scheme of primary education for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and the pattern of assistance of 40 per cent, 60 per cent and all those kinds of pattern of assistance for individual schemes. The recommendation of the Administrative Reforms Commission was that this system of individual pattern of assistance for individual schemes should be completely done away with. This impinges on the autonomy of the State Governments and is not liked by them. It does not help in the progress of a particular scheme. This proposal was considered by the National Development Council and they were entirely in favour of doing away with the individual pattern of assistance for individual schemes in whatever sector they were and as a result of it the entire assistance in the Fourth Five Year Plna is now going as a block grant and a block loan to the State Governments. Out of the total assistance of the Fourth Five Year Plan, 70 per cent will be loan and 30 per cent will be grant irrespective of the purpose for which it is spent.....This is the recommendation of the Administrative Reforms Commission, supported by the National Development Council. There has been considerable liberalisation of the system of assistance to the State Governments. No individual schemes are being recommended and they have to adopt the schemes suitable to their own conditions and according to the requirements of the local area."

3.12. During the course of their tours to Maharashtra, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh the Study Groups of the Committee were informed that the State Governments were of the view that the Government of India should continue to meet the entire expenditure on account of post-Matric Scholarships to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as hithertofore either from the committed non-Plan expenditure of the Government of India or from the Plan expenditure of the Central Government without requiring the State Governments to take up the matter with the Finance Commission. The reason for this was stated to be that the outcome of the recommendations of the Finance Commission was not certain and if the Commission did not do justice to the needs of each individual State, then the interests of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled

Tribes and other Backward Classes students would suffer, as the State Governments would clearly not be in a position to provide the necessary provision in their budgets.

3.13. When the attention of the representative of the Planing Commission was drawn to the apprehensions of the State Governments, he has stated as under:

> "We have had resolutions of a large number of Ministers of different States wanting that the expenditure should be retained in the Central sector and that there should be a system of direct allocation by the Centre to the State Governments for that particular programme. This is not the recommendation of only the Ministers' Conference. But I have got large number of recommendations of this nature in mind. But when it comes to the meeting of the Chief Ministers in the National Development Council, the Chief Ministers do not want individual allocations on individual schemes."

3.14. Asked to state whether in view of the fact that the money received by the States from the Centre for the development and welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes may be diverted to other heads, the Government proposed to have this money deducted from their budget and have it deposited under the head 'Scholarships Fund' for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the representative of the Planning Commossion has stated:

> "This is a point which can be considered....We shall have to put up this matter before Government as to how one could ensure that. We do not know what the recommendation of the Finance Commission is. After we receive the recommendations of the Finance Commission we may have to request the Government to consider the measures that should be taken on the view expressed by this Committee, namely, that the money should not be diverted for other purposes."

3.15. The Committee wanted to know from the representative of the Department of Social Welfare the difficulties in reverting to the 1958-59 position, i.e. before the decentralisation of the scheme, when the post-matric scholarships scheme was directly operated by the Central Government. The representative of the Department of Social Welfare has stated during evidence:

"As far as my Department, that is, Department of Social Welfare, is concerned, there is no objection. At various discussions that have been held, a certain amount of apprehension had been expressed. That is why we put it up before the States Ministers' Conference. My Department took it up with the State Governments and also with the Planning Commission. If you could suggest specifically that this amount of Rs. 7 crores per year should be taken out from what you call the divisible resources of the Finance Commission and put in the Central Non-Plan budget, we would be as happy as you are.....Actually we are interested in implementing the entire Plan schemes. Rs. 35 crores is the Committed expenditure. If it is proposed that this amount devolved on the State Governments should be withdrawn from them and it should be put in the Central scheme we will have no objection to this."

3.16. He has further stated that 'if the Committee makes a specific recommendation on these points that obviously will have to go before the N.D.C. for their final consent'.

3.17. The Committee desired to know what would be the additional expenditure over and above Rs. 11 crores already provided in the Plan budget if the old scheme of post-Matric scholarships was continued. The representative of the Planning Commission has stated:

"When we assessed the requirements under this scheme for this Department, we found that their total proposals after excluding the committed expenditure—that is, Rs. 35 crores—would be Rs. 13.25 crores. As against this additional expenditure we have provided Rs. 11 crores. The difference is of Rs. 2 crores."

3.18. The representative of the Department of Social Welfare has, however, added:

"If we are having the set of scholarship on a particular scale and we have to give the scholarship to anybody who is qualified, if we adopt these two criteria we should be able to manage between Rs. 13.25 crores. What we will not be able to manage is to give relief to those people who say their scholarship is inadequate. The students cannot live in the hostel on that amount."

According to him, the additional amount that would be needed for raising the quantum of scholarships could be Rs. 20 to Rs. 25 crores for five years.

3.19. The Committee desired to know, after the presentation of the Report of the Fifth Finance Commission, whether that Commission had taken into consideration the transfer of this burden to the States and made the necessary allotment of resources to the States to meet their expenditure on the post-matric Scholarships for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Planning Commission have informed the Committee in October, 1969 as follows:

> "The Planning Commission is of the view that the plan outlay on the centrally sponsored scheme of post-matric scholarships should represent the net increase over the level of expenditure on the scheme in 1968-69. The Finance Commission was specifically requested by the Planning Commission to keep the scheme in view in formulating the scheme of devolution of resources to the States on account of the Committed expenditure for plan schemes. The Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) has been consulted . . . They have stated that since there does not appear to be any justification for assuming that the Finance Commission have not taken this expenditure into account in their scheme of devolution, there cannot be any question of Central assistance outside the Finance Commission's scheme of devolution on account of the expenditure on post-matric scholarships to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as reached in 1968-69, as this would amount to a double payment to the State Governments."

3.20. The Planning Commission have also forwarded to the Committee a copy of D.O. letter No. 5894-S(ex)|69 dated the 1st September, 1969 received by the Planning Commission from the Ministry of Finance in which the latter have stated as follows:

> "The question of meeting the 'Committed' expenditure by the Central Government can arise only if the Finance Commission has not taken this expenditure into account. There does not appear to be justification for any such view. We have checked with the Finance Commission's Secretariat and they have reported as follows:—
>
> 'The estimates of Committed expenditure furnished to the Commission by States do not in all cases contain suffici-

ent details to enable such items to be identified. On a test-check, we found that certain States have included the requirement of scholarships for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under head "39-Miscellaneous Social and Developmental Organisation" as a recurring liability. This has been taken into account in the Commission's assessment. In other cases, where the item may not be identifiable, it can be stated that contingent items of recurring nature have not been disallowed.

The above should be read with the qualification that in the case of those States where, for want of sufficient details, itemwise scrutiny was not found possible, the estimates of committed expenditure were subject to certain *ad hoc* ceilings in terms of percentages of Plan expenditure.'

From the above, it seems that even where the item is not identifiable in the forecasts, contingent items of a recurring nature have not been disallowed and it therefore follows that the Finance Commission has taken into account the entire expenditure in this regard as claimed by the States in their forecasts submitted to the Finance Commission in terms of the advice given to them by the Department of Social Welfare.

This being so, there cannot be any question of Central assistance outside the Finance Commission's scheme of devolution on account of the expenditure on post-matric scholarships to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as reached in 1968-69, as this would amount to a double payment to the State Governments."

3.21. It may be pointed out in this connection that during the recent tour of a Study Group of the Committee to Kerala and Tamil Nadu, when the representatives of the Governments of Kerala and Tamil Nadu were asked whether they had made any provision in their respective State Governments' budgets for the current financial year to meet the expenditure on the post-Matric scholarships for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, they replied in the negative. They said that they were continuing to pay the Post-Matric scholarships to the eligible Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students as before in the hope that the Government of India would meet the entire expenditure on this account as hithertofore.

3.22. The Committee have given careful consideration to the implications of the treatment of the expenditure on the scheme for Post-Matric scholarships as non-Plan committed expenditure of the States up to the level of expenditure on the scheme in 1968-69. Whatever might have been the considerations with the Ministry of Finance or with the Planning Commission for introducing this change in the pattern of financing of this scheme, the Committee are of the view that this will jeopardise the educational interests of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe community. As the States will not be bound to make specific provisions up to a particular level for the award of Post-Matric Scholarships to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the Committee apprehend that the States, out of various considerations, may divert their resources to other projects which they might consider to be more urgent or more important. If this happens, the number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students receiving these Scholarships will go down considerably and this may retard the already none too satisfactory progress of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Committee therefore, strongly urge that the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance should reconsider the matter and restore the same pattern for financing the scheme of Post-Matric Scholarships for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students as existed prior to the year 1969-70. The Planning Commission and the Government of India have already agreed to meet the expenditure in excess of the level reached in 1968-69 on this scheme. After all, the level of expenditure on this scheme in 1968-69 was only to the tune of Rs. 7 crores.

The Committee are anxious that not only the existing level of expenditure on the scheme of Post-Matric Scholarships for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be maintained in each State and Union Territory but that it should be considerably and suitably increased. The Committee therefore recommend that the necessary amounts required for awarding post-Matric scholarships to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be treated as a non-Plan committed expenditure of the Central Government. The scheme should continue to be treated as a Central scheme to be controlled and financed by the Central Government and to be operated by the State Governments. In this connection the Committee note that the Department of Social Welfare have no objection to continue to operate the scheme as hithertofore provided the necessary funds are placed at their disposal.

## CHAPTER IV

## ENHANCEMENT OF QUANTUM OF SCHOLARSHIPS

4.1. The rates of post-matric scholarships were fixed more than a decade ago and there have been persistent demands for their enhancement. Several representations were made to the Committee during their tours to various States that the rate of scholarships which has got no bearing to the present-day cost of living, should be increased.

4.2. The Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has also from time to time made recommendations for the enhancement of the scholarships rates. In his Report for the year 1964-65, the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes had made a pointed reference to the subject. The Commissioner had observed:

> "In the 1962-63 Report, it was suggested that the rate of Government of India Post-Matric Scholarships should be increased to meet the general rise in cost of living. This suggestion has not been accepted by the Government of India Ministry of Education, so far. It is, however, gratifying to note that the Ministry of Education have allowed the scholarship holders under this scheme to accept, from the year 1965-66, any grant or monetary help from a State Government or any other source, for the purpose of books, equipment, etc., and also for meeting expenses on boarding and lodging in addition to the scholarship amount paid under this scheme. This would enable the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students to live in general hostels if the State Government evolve a scholarship scheme to supplement the amount of money available under the Government of India Scholarship Scheme."

4.3. More recently the Committee on Untouchability, Economic and Educational Development of Scheduled Castes (Elayaperumal Committee) had in their Report made a strong plea for linking the scholarship rate with the cost of living. That Committee observed:

> "There is wide-spread discontent about the rates of post-matric scholarships. The rates of scholarships under the scheme

at present, include monthly maintenance, which varies from Rs. 40 for hostellers and Rs. 27 for day scholars for under graduate and graduate courses to Rs. 75 for hostellers and Rs. 60 for day scholars in the professional degree courses in Engineering, Medicine, etc. depending upon the course of study. The rates fixed are generally considered to be quite inadequate to meet the expenditure of the students, especially for technical studies like Engineering and Medical courses. As the rates are fixed uniformly in all States, students studying in costly cities are naturally finding it difficult to meet their expenses."

That Committee recommended that:

"The rates of scholarships should be raised to enable the student to meet the full expenditure from the scholarship amount. The present rates of post-matric scholarships were fixed in 1954-55, i.e. more than 15 years ago based on the conditions prevailing at that time. Conditions have thoroughly changed now. According to the rise in cost of living the Government should come forwardto give equivalent rise in the rates of scholarships, the amount which should be sufficient to meet all the expenses of the students in the present conditions. The amount of scholarships need not be the same throughout the country but should be related in any State or city according to the cost of living there. The details of the formula for revision of scholarships should be worked out by the implementing authorities, taking into consideration all the prevailing conditions."

4.4. According to the review conducted by the Department of Social Welfare on the post-matric scholarship scheme, the values of scholarships given by the Department of Social Welfare compared favourably with those given by the Education Ministry's National Scholarship Scheme. A statement comparing the rates under the scheme of the Department of Social Welfare and those of Education Ministry's National Scholarship scheme is given in Appendix IX.

4.5. From the statement given in Appendix IX it may be observed that under the scheme of the Department of Social Welfare, the values of scholarships are higher for degree courses in engineering, medicine and slightly lower for other courses. The Department of Social Welfare, however, do not consider it desirable to equate the rates under these two schemes.

4.6. Asked to state the proposals for increase in the rates of scholarships, the representatives of the Department of Social Welfare has stated:

> "We are proposing to increase its rate consistent with the cost of living index. This has remained static for a number of years. Proposals are now under consideration to increase them substantially."

4.7. An assurance for raising the quantum of scholarships was also given by the Minister of Law and Social Welfare in the Rajya Sabha on the 31st July, 1969. He said:

> "I am satisfied that the post-matric scholarships now being given particularly to students in technical institutions are not sufficient. Therefore, I have raised the question of enhancing the quantum of post-matric scholarships and the matter is pending with the Finance Ministry. The proposal is there to enhance the scholarship to those who are undergoing technical courses by 100 per cent and by 50 per cent in the case of academic courses. The matter is awaiting clearance from Finance."

4.8. The Committee wanted to know whether any assessment has been made by the Department of Social Welfare as to the additional expenditure that has to be incurred on account of enhancement of rates as also the savings likely to accure from the selective approach in the matter of grant of scholarships. In a note furnished to the Committee, the Department of Social Welfare has stated:

> "In the IV Plan, the pre-Plan expenditure (about Rs. 7 crores per year) has been transferred to the non-plan budgets of the State Governments. Only the amount required to cover the anticipated growth in the scheme has been provided for the Plan. If the scheme is continued without any changes, we will be able to meet the expenditure on the award of scholarships within the provision of Rs. 35 crores in the non-Plan budget and Rs. 11 crores in the Plan Budget.
>
> We had proposed to increase the rates of maintenance charges by 100 per cent in technical courses and by 50

per cent in Arts|Science courses. The additional requirement of funds to meet this enhancement of rates would come in the IVth Plan period to:

*Rs. In Crores*

| | Plan | Non-Plan | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| Requirement at existing rates . . . . . | 11 | 35 | 46 |
| Additional sum required to pay at enhanced rates without adopting any restrictions . . . | 6 | 15* | 21 |
| Total amount required at the enhanced rates . | 17 | 50 | 67 |

*Rs. 15 crores has only notionally to be earmarked to cover the gap in the non-plan budgets of the State Governments. Being a new item of expenditure, arising out of an increase in rates, it will be classified as a plan expenditure. The total Central Plan provision required would come to Rs. 32 (11+6+15) crores instead of the existing Rs. 11 crores.

If selective approach is made by introducing an upper age limit of 30 years, imposition of 45 per cent marks for all for pursuing post-graduate courses and application of the present income limit of Rs. 500 p.m. to Scheduled Castes|Tribes, this is likely to result in a saving of approximately Rs. 90 lakhs in a year, say Rs. 5 crores in the total IV Plan period. In that case, the net additional requirement of funds would be as worked out in the statement below:—

*Rs. in crores*

| | Plan | Non-Plan | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| Provision at existing rates . . | 11 | 35 | 46 |
| Additional requirements . . . . | 5 | 10** | 15 |
| Total requirement . . . . . | 16 | 45 | 61 |

** Rs.10 crores has only notionally to be earmarked to cover the gap in the non-Plan budgets of the State Governments. Being a new item of expenditure, arising out of an increase in rates, it will be classified as a Plan expenditure. The total Central Plan provision required would come to Rs. 26 (11+5+10) crores instead of the existing Rs. 11 crores.".

4.9. The Committee are constrained to observe that while the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes had in his 1962-63 Report made a specific suggestion to the Government for increasing the rate of post-matric scholarships to meet the general rise in the cost of living, no positive action was taken by the Government in this direction, with the result that the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students, who are economically backward, continue to undergo great hardships in prosecuting their studies. Although a period of seven years has elapsed since the Commissioner's Report, the question of enhancement of the rate of scholarships has not yet been finalised. The Committee, however, feel encouraged by the assurance given by the Minister of Law and Social Welfare in Parliament that there would be 100 per cent increase in the rate of scholarships for those undergoing technical courses and 50 per cent in the case of those pursuing academic courses. The Committee hope that the Ministry of Finance would give early clearance to the scheme so that it could be implemented without avoidable delay.

4.10. The Committee are in agreement with the views expressed by the Elayaperumal Committee that the rate of scholarship should be linked with the cost of living and a formula for the revision of scholarships should be worked out by implementing authorities taking into consideration all the prevailing conditions.

## CHAPTER V

## CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY IN THE NEW REGULATIONS (1969-70) (SINCE STAYED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE)

5.1. A reference has already been made in the previous section to the regulations for the grant of post-matric scholarships and the conditions of eligibility in the new Regulations (1969-70) which were sharply criticised, both inside and outside Parliament and operation of which has been stayed under the orders of the Minister of Social Welfare.

5.2. The conditions of eligibility in the Regulations (1969-70) are as follows:

"(i) The scholarships are open to nationals of India who have not attained the age of 30 years on the date of joining the particular course of study for which the scholarship is sought.

(ii) These scholarships will be given for the study of recognised post-matriculation courses in the recognised institutions. Other courses will be considered individually and on merit.

(iii) Only those candidates who belong to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes so specified in relation to the State/ Union Territory to which the applicant actually belongs or permanently settled and denotified, nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes as recognised for this purpose or are covered under Lower Income Group as defined under Regulation VI (iii) and who have passed the Matriculation or any other equivalent examination of a recognised University or Board of Secondary Education will be eligible.

(iv) Candidates who after passing one stage of education are studying in the same stage of education in a different subject, e.g., ISs. Jr. after I.A. Jr.; or B. Com. after B.A. M.A.; or M.A. in one subject after M.A. in another subject will not be eligible.

(v) Candidates who, after failing or passing the under-graduate|graduate| post-graduate examination in Arts|Science| Commerce join any recognised professional certificate| diploma|degree course will be awarded scholarship, if otherwise eligible. No subsequent failure will be condoned and no further change in the course will be allowed. However, the Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribe, Denotified, Nomadic & Semi-nomadic Tribes candidate will get the benefit of Regulation VII (ii).

Candidates should note that having completed their educational career in one trade or professional line, they are expected to join that trade|profession. In case they want to go for higher studies in that trade or professional course they can apply for scholarship for such higher studies but not for any other academic|professional|trade course. However, a candidate having completed teaching professional courses or LL.B. would be eligible to apply for the study of academic course. A student who has only completed the academic courses of M.A.|M.Sc. M. Com. can go in for research courses.

(vi) Students studying in Class XI of the Higher Secondary School Course or the XII Class of the Multipurpose High School will not be eligible being a continuous school course. However, in case where the tenth class examination of such a course is treated as equivalent to Matriculation and students who after passing tenth class join other courses, such students will be treated as post-matric students and will be eligible for the award of scholarship.

(vii) Students pursing post-graduate courses in medicine will be eligible if they are not allowed to practice during the period of their course.

(viii) Candidates who wish to pursue their studies through correspondence courses will not be eligible. However, those who want to pursue part-time courses will be eligible but in their case the normal rates of monthly maintenance charges will be reduced in proportion to the duration of the part-time course to that of full-time one.

Wherever students study part-time course (like LL.B.) along with a regular day-time course (like M.A.), the student

will be paid scholarship only for one course. Option of selecting the course will be left to the student.

(ix) A scholarship holder under this scheme will not hold any other scholarship|stipend. If awarded any other scholarship|stipend, the student can exercise his|her option for either of the two scholarships, whichever is beneficial to him|her, and should inform the awarding authority through the head of the Institution about the option made. No scholarship will be paid to the student under this scheme from the date he|she accepts another scholarship|stipend.

The student can, however, accept a grant or monetary help from the State Government or any other source for the purchase of books, equipment or for meeting the expenses on board and lodging in addition to the scholarship amount paid under this scheme."

5.3. It has been further provided in the Regulations (1969-70) that:

(i) All the eligible Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates will be given scholarships subject to the means test prescribed below:

| | |
|---|---|
| (*a*) If the income*does not exceed Rs. 360/- p. m. | Full scholarships. |
| (*b*) If the income*exceeds Rs. 360/- but not Rs. 500/- p.m. | Half maintenance charges and full fee/ block grant. |
| (*c*) If the income*exceeds Rs. 500/- p.m. | No scholarship. |

(ii) For pursuing post-graduate courses, the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates will be given scholarships provided they secured at least 45 per cent marks at the last qualifying examination.

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*NOTE 1. The income means the total income of the parents/guardians from all sources (and the income, if any, of the scholar from any source including salary, property, share etc. in his name or assigned to him) irrespective of whether it was salaried income or othewise.

2. So long as either of the parents (or husband in the case of married unemployed girl student) are alive, only the income of the parent/husband (as the case may be) from all sources has to be taken and of no other members though they may be earning. In the form of income declaration (A), Income is to be declared on this basis. Only in the cases where both the parents (or husband) in the case of a married but unemployed girl student) have died, the income of the guardian who is supporting the student in his/her studies has to be taken.

The test of the new regulations is given in Appendix III.

5.4. The Committee desired to know the raison d'etre for introducing an upper age-limit of 30 years for eligibility to new scholarships. The Department of Social Welfare have, in a written note, stated as under:

(i) The West Bengal Government reported that there is no clear provision in the existing regulations to debar a candidate from receiving Government of India scholarships even in a case he applies for it at an advanced age after a period of long break of study and the subject of study may be wholly unconnected with his career. The following instance may be cited among others:—

(a) A properly qualified Government servant taking up higher studies which have no bearing on the post in which he is employed.

(b) Applicants resuming studies after the lapse of 10 years or more without any fixed purpose although the applicant is already employed.

(c) A Government servant taking up courses like Homoeopathy, Journalism, etc.

(ii) In many cases it is found that such studies are not taken up seriously and prove of little or no benefit to the candidate concerned. As misuse of fund is inherent in such cases it is suggested that such cases should be decided on merit by the sanctioning authority."

5.5. The Committee wanted to know:

(i) Whether on receipt of information from the West Bengal Government, the Department of Social Welfare made any survey to find out:

(a) The number of properly qualified Government servants who took up higher studies which had no bearing on the post in which they were employed during the last three years;

(b) The number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates who resumed studies after a lapse of 10 years or more during the last three years;

(c) The number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Government servants who took up courses of Homoeopathy, Journalism, etc. during the last three years.

(ii) Whether the Department of Social Welfare conducted any further investigation in regard to the allegation of West Bengal Government that "As misuse of fund is inherent in such cases, it is suggested that such cases should be decided on merit by the sanctioning authority."

5.6. The Department of Social Welfare have stated in reply that (a) "Normally we do not suspect anything that a State Government says. The relationship between the Centre and the State Governments is one of mutual trust. We assume that State Governments are responsible Governments. Further, it may be pointed out that the West Bengal Government had supported their findings with detailed statements involving 35 cases of the type referred to in the question, covering a period of two years. Moreover, the West Bengal Minister had himself brought this type of defect to notice at a Conference of State Ministers in charge of Backward Classes held in the year 1967. The number of cases reported by the West Bengal Government is as follows:

| | 1965-66 | 1966-67 |
|---|---|---|
| Homoeopathy . . . . | 1 | 5 |
| Law . . . . . | 3 | 4 |
| P. U. Com./B.Com./M.Com. . . | 3 | Nil |
| B.Sc. . | | 2 |
| Other Arts Courses . . . | 5 | 12 |

5.7 So far as question (b) is concerned, the Department of Social Welfare have stated that "This aspect was considered. Even under the old Regulations, the State Government had a considerable amount of discretion. It is not administratively feasible to examine individual cases of this type at the Central Government level. It was to cover such cases of abuse that a general safeguard in the shape of an age-limit was considered desirable."

5.8. The Department of Social Welfare have also stated that "the upper age limit of 30 years applies only in the cases of fresh awards and not renewals of scholarships. In courses like medicine and engineering, which may extend up to six or seven years, this means that when a student enters the first year, he should be not more than 30 years old; the scholarships will continue till he completes the course at an age which may be upto 38 years. It may be observed here that the normal age, limit for entry into Government services is 25, which is extended by 5 years in the case of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. So a candidate who is older than 30 will normally be ineligible to enter Government services."

5.9. In reply to a question whether the Department have come across any instance where the scholarship amount has been utilised as a means of livelihood, the representative of the Department of Social Welfare has stated during evidence that "A sample survey revealed that the extent of questionableness of the scholarship will be less than 4 per cent. The misuse is very marginal."

5.10. Regarding the application of means test to Scheduled Tribes also, the Department of Social Welfare have stated in a note that "The means test was originally applicable to both Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. This was abolished altogether in 1957-58 at the instance of the Home Ministry. The decision to abolish the means test seems to have been governed by political and other considerations. When the question of financing this scheme during the Third Plan was considered, a point arose whether an element of selection in the award of these scholarships should be introduced. After considering all the aspects, it was decided to introduce a means test. It was felt that there is no good reason why a student from a well-to-do Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe family should be given financial assistance; a poor but meritorious student coming from another section of the community has, if anything, a better claim on the resources of the State; and if the idea is that in course of time, the economic backwardness of a family should become the sole criterion for grant of educational assistance, it is desirable that the economic criterion should now be introduced in a limited way for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes also, so that they may gradually get used to the criterion of backwardness eventually to be adopted. Though the proposal was in favour of a common means test for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the Scheduled Tribes were later exempted because the progress in their education was slower, and a negligible number of them came from higher income groups."

5.11. The Department of Social Welfare have further stated that "It was felt that there should be no discrimination between the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in this matter. The application of the means test accordingly was extended to the Scheduled Tribes. It may nevertheless be pointed out that the means test retains the old liberal income limit of Rs. 500 per month which is above the national per capita income, and far above the levels hitherto adopted for low-income groups. Another aspect of this change is that the cumbersome old system of 11 grades in the income slabs has been simplified and only three groups have been specified as under:—

(i) If the income does not exceed Rs. 360 per month—Full Scholarship.

(ii) If the income exceeds Rs. 360 per month but not Rs. 500 per month—Full Fee Block Grant and half maintenance charges.

(iii) If the income exceeds Rs. 500 per month—No Scholarship.

This simplification is decidedly a positive one and would be beneficial to the students by and large."

5.12. Asked to state in what respects the new groupings would be beneficial to the students by and large, the Department of Social Welfare have stated that the new income slabs would be beneficial in the following cases:

"(i) New students whose parents'/guardians' income is upto Rs. 360 p.m. would get full scholarship. Formerly it was upto Rs. 300 p.m. only.

(ii) Formerly no scholarship was admissible to a candidate who happened to be the only one child studying post-matric course if the parents' income exceeded Rs. 400 p.m. Now such students would also get scholarship.

(iii) Formerly employed students who had to support the family were not eligible to get scholarship if the income exceeded Rs. 475 p.m. Now they will also get scholarship.

(iv) Formerly there were different slabs of means test for employed students who had to support a family and those who had not to support a family. Now all Scheduled Caste students, whether employed or not, would get full

scholarship upto Rs. 360 p.m. and half maintenance charges if the income exceeded Rs. 360 but not Rs. 500 p.m."

5.13. A comparative chart of the old and new income slabs is given in Appendix X.

5.14. Justifying the introduction of merit test in the new Regulations (1969-70), the Department of Social Welfare have stated that "In the absence of any merit test, the demand for scholarships has been increasing from year to year. In view of the financial constraints, this trend was proving to be an obstacle in providing adequate assistance to deserving cases. Also, the number of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe post-graduates was growing without the immediate prospect of proper placement in employment. In order to avoid such a growing force of educated unemployed and also with the object of affording better assistance to the more deserving students, some sort of a selective approach had to be adopted. Hence the requirement to score at least 45 per cent marks in the last qualifying examination. This requirement was intended only for post-graduate education." Most Universities, it had been stated, already insist on such standards for admission to post-graduate classes. It has also been stated that "even in the case of the blind, deaf and orthopaedically handicapped students, scholarships are awarded only subject to the condition that the candidates should have secured at least 40 per cent marks at the previous annual examination."

5.15. The attention of the Committee has been drawn to the observations made by the Committee on Untouchability, Economic and Educational Development of the Scheduled Castes (Elyaperumal Committee) in regard to educational facilities for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. While noting that there has been wastage in the education of Scheduled Castes that Committee has observed that the poor standard of the students at post-matric stage is due to their poor standard they have carried forward from pre-matric stage and also due to environmental and other handicaps. In the opinion of that Committee, their standard should be raised to the level of the rest of the students before their education starts in the post-matric stage or at least a simultaneous effort should be made at post-matric stage to raise their standard by special coaching.

5.16. Reference has also been made to the Seminar on Employment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes held by the Planning Commission under the Chairmanship of Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao

which recommended that "the technical institutions should also consider the starting of special tutorial classes to raise the standard of Scheduled Caste students equal to the rest of the community."

5.17. Regretting that Government have not implemented this valuable suggestion, the Elayaperumal Committee has observed:

> "The critics clamouring for applying restrictions on admission of Scheduled Castes at post-matric stage by way of fixing minimum percentage of marks to avoid probable wastage in future, should realise that the poor standard and possible wastage in post-matric stage, is a sin, which the students carry forward from their poor standard at pre-matric education, and the solution of the problem lies in raising the standard of students by special coaching and not by denying admissions to them, and penalising them for a fault obviously which is not their own."

The Elayaperumal Committee therefore recommended that "no restrictions, whatsoever should be imposed on the admission of Scheduled Caste students to educational institutions on account of their low standard and fear of probable wastage. Such measures as special coaching aptitude test to find out the interest of the students etc., should be adopted."

What has been said about Scheduled Castes can also be said about Scheduled Tribes.

5.18. In the Report of the Seminar on Employment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, it has been emphasised that the problems connected with the education of the Scheduled Castes differ from those of the Scheduled Tribes inasmuch as the former live in the urban as well as rural areas and mix with the general community, the latter live mostly in interior-most and inaccessible areas, absolutely cut off from civilisation. In that Report it has been stressed that special attention is required to be paid for the educational development of the Scheduled Tribes.

5.19. The Working Group headed by Shri M. R. Yardi, Additional Secretary of the Ministry of Home Affairs, to study the progress of measures for land allotment to Scheduled Castes and their representation in services, in their Report (November, 1967) have also stressed the need for enlarging the scope of post-matric scholarships to include watching the progress of the individual students, career planning and guidance and follow-up action leading to placement in

appropriate institutions. According to the Study Group, "Such comprehensive attention is necessary not only to minimise wastage and stagnation but also to enable the scheme to become an integral part of manpower planning."

5.20. The Committee have been informed that Government have accepted this recommendation of the Yardi Working Group and are arranging to provide coaching facilities in hostels to weaker students. Centres are also being set up in all the States to train candidates for State Services' Examinations and all class III (Executive and Ministerial) posts.

**5.21. The Committee have considered the new regulations for the grant of post-matric scholarships and the conditions of eligibility contained therein. While the Committee appreciate that the cumbersome old system of 11 grades in the income slabs has been simplified and only three groups have been specified, they feel that there is scope for further liberalisation of the scheme so as to enable a larger number of poor and meritorious students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to pursue a course of higher studies after the matriculation stage. Considering the economic backwardness of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and also the rising cost of living, the Committee recommend that Government should grant full scholarships to those students whose parents'/guardians' income does not exceed Rs. 800 per month. Half maintenance charges and full fee/block grant should be given to those students whose parents/guardians' income exceeds Rs. 800 but does not exceed Rs. 1200 per month. In the case of students whose parents'/guardians' income exceeds Rs. 1200 p.m., no scholarship may be given. The Committee would also recommend that no income limit should be fixed in the case of students who desire to pursue postgraduate studies and research, as no such limitation exists in regard to the Government of India's National Scholarship Scheme and National Loan Scholarship Scheme.**

**5.22. The Committee are not convinced with the arguments advanced by the Department of Social Welfare for introducing an upper age-limit of 30 years for new scholarships. They do not agree with the conclusions arrived at by the Department of Social Welfare on the basis of stray cases stated to have been brought to their notice by the Government of West Bengal. The Committee feel that pursuit of courses like Homoeopathy, Law, Humanities, etc. by the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe persons in service cannot be regarded as misuse of the scholarships. Rather, the Committee are firmly of the opinion that the award of scholarships for these courses is both legitimate and proper.**

5.23. The Committee are also unable to agree with the argument advanced by the Department of Social Welfare that the upper age-limit of 30 years is desirable because a candidate who is other than 30 years will normally be ineligible for Government service. People do not get educated merely to enter into Government service. An educated person has various avenues open to him to make a respectable living without entry into Government service. No statistics are available to the Committee as regards the number of students above 30 years of age who have availed of post-matric scholarships. The Committee, however, feel that the number of such cases would be very low. The Committee, therefore, do not find any justification for introducing an upper age-limit so as to prevent a negligible percentage of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students of 30 years and above from pursuing a course of higher studies. The Committee would urge that upper age-limit of 30 years should be removed altogether.

5.24. In regard to the introduction of merit test in new regulations (1969-70), the Committee are of the view that no restriction whatsoever should be imposed on the admission of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students to educational institutions or on grant of scholarships to them. The insistence on the requirement to obtain at least 45 per cent marks in the last qualifying examination for a post-graduate course is, in the opinion of the Committee, wholly unjustified. There is no bar to the employment under the Government of India or the Government of any State of a student who merely obtains pass marks in his qualifying examination. The Committee, therefore, are unable to understand why a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe student who graduates with less than 45 per cent marks should be debarred from the grant of scholarships for pursuing post-graduate studies. The Committee hope that the merit test in the new regulations, i.e. the requirement of 45 per cent marks at the last qualifying examination, will be done away with.

5.25. The Committee would also urge the Government to give urgent consideration to the recommendations made by the Yardi Working Group as well as the Elayaperumal Committee that the standard of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students at pre-matric stage should be raised by providing coaching facilities so that there is no wastage or stagnation at the post-matric stage.

## CHAPTER VI

## ADMINISTRATION OF THE SCHEME FOR POST-MATRIC SCHOLARSHIPS

6.1. The Public Accounts Committee in their 41st Report, 1965-66 (Third Lok Sabha) have observed as under:

> "It is not clear to the Committee why grants were being released for the same scheme by two Ministries *viz.* Ministry of Education and the Department of Social Security. The Committee suggest that the question of releasing the grant from one source with a view to have better co-ordination in the implementation of the scheme, may be examined."

6.2. The Yardi Working Group in their Report (1967) has also stated:

> "At present the Department of Social Welfare only disburses the grants while the administration of scholarships is done by the Department of Education at the Centre and the States. It would be desirable to involve the Departments of Social Welfare at the Centre and States and local levels to effect proper co-ordination of this scheme with other programmes."

6.3. The Committee have been informed by the Department of Social Welfare that with a view to ensure better co-ordination of the post-matric scholarships scheme, the entire work relating to this scheme, which was being handled by the Education Ministry, was transferred to the Department of Social Welfare with effect from January, 1968.

### (i) *Delay in the payment of Scholarships*

6.4. Delay in the award of scholarships is one of the greatest difficulties experienced by the students. The Study Groups of the Committee during their tours to various States have received several representations from non-official organisations about the delay involved in the payment of scholarships to students.

6.5. It has been stated by the Department of Social Welfare that the post-matric scholarships scheme was decentralised in 1959-60, mainly with a view to avoid delay in the disbursement of scholarships. When the Committee pointed out that even after decentralisation, the scholarships amount in some of the States was disbursed as late as one year, the representative of the Department of Social Welfare has stated during evidence as under:

> "We admit straightway that while the colleges reopen some time in July, the sanction orders issue as late as October or November. All the scholarships are finally sanctioned. We have done our best to see that there is no inconvenience caused to the students or to any institutions. Even after the order was issued sanctioning the scholarship amount, that might not be in their hands. But the students as well as the colleges clearly are aware that the order is on the way. My feeling is that no real hardship has been caused to any student or any institution. Of course, there may be a delay of a few months in the issue of the orders. At the same time, I am not justifying even this limited delay of four or five months. I can only say that we are doing our best to reduce this time and to make the machinery a little smoother. We do help the States on this question and each time we feel that we have been able to improve it. But still we are far from devising a perfect machinery."

6.6. The representative of the Department of Social Welfare has informed the Committee during evidence that in the States of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Gujarat and Maharashtra, the system has been working almost with 80 per cent efficiency and the students are able to get the scholarships within a very reasonable period of two months from the date of submission of their applications.

6.7. In reply to another question whether complaints have been received to the effect that some colleges receiving the amount for disbursement of scholarships have not distributed the sam to the studnts, the representative of the Department of Social Welfare has stated:

> "There are some institutions, particularly private colleges, who keep money with them for a considerable time and make all sorts of deductions before they pass it on to the

students. In that case, we write to the State Governments. They take it up with the Head Master of the institution concerned. The District Welfare Officers, during the course of their tour, also take care of it. But it is not very widespread. We do receive a few complaints from the States."

6.8. In their 24th Report (April 1958) (Second Lok Sabha), the Estimates Committee recommended that the Ministry should set up a machinery which will go through every complaint in regard to delays in payment of scholarships and suggest remedial measures to avoid a recurrence. A record of all such complaints should be maintained at one place for ready reference. Government accepted the recommendation, vide 144th Report of Estimates Committee (Second Lok Sabha, October, 1961).

6.9. The Committee wanted to know (a) the nature of machinery set up in the Ministry of Education to deal with complaints in regard to delays in payment of scholarships and the date when such a machinery was set up by Government and (b) the machinery set up in the Department of Social Welfare to whom the administration of the scholarship scheme was transferred in January, 1968, to deal with complaints in regard to delay in payment of scholarships. The Department of Social Welfare in their reply have stated in a note as under:

"1. No special machinery has been set up to deal with complaints regarding delayed payment of scholarships. The Department of Social Welfare entertains complaints directly. The aggrieved students also approach our Zonal Directors. The Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes also entertains such complaints.

2. Some State Governments have set up Vigilance Cells in their General Administration Departments to look into such grievances. This measure has been recommended for adoption to all the State Governments.

3. We feel, it will be easier, cheaper, and quicker for a student to seek redress from the State Government itself. We are also always ready to entertain such complaints and help the aggrieved.

4. The recommendation of the Estimates Committee relating to special machinery was apprarently made in the context of the former centralised scheme as operated by the

Education Ministry. With the decentralisation of the scheme in 1958-59, which was done with the main purpose of expediting payments and making State Governments locally responsible for operation of the scheme, the cause of action for special machinery at the Centre ceased to exist."

6.10. The Committee wanted to know the time gap between the receipt of applications and the award of scholarships to the students and the specific measures that have been taken to reduce the time gap and also to obviate delays in the award of scholarships. In reply the Department of Social Welfare have stated in a note:

"The applications for these scholarships are received by the State Governments and the awards are also made by them. The 'time-gap' therefore varies from State to State.

The award and disbursement of scholarships is however always sought to be arranged with utmost promptitude. The State Governments have been advised that the cases of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes need not be bracketed with the other students. Applications of these two categories for renewal and fresh scholarships are required to be taken up first and decision announced within a fortnight after the last date for the receipt of applications.

We have on our part simplified the application forms and the Regulations were also revised (enforcement of which has now been stayed) to eliminate procedural bottlenecks. The State Governments have further been advised to adopt the following measures for eliminating delays:

(i) Decentralisation of authority (in the matter of disbursement) at the District level.

(ii) More publicity of the scheme so that the students get to know of the facilities as also the procedural formalities.

(iii) Supply of application forms, etc. to the students before they leave the institutions for the examination so that next year they can apply in time.

(iv) Adoption of measures like ad hoc payments, introduction of entitlement/Identity Card system for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes so that they are not required to pay at the time of admission.

(v) Attention on priority basis to inter-State cases.

Very recently, the Minister of Social Welfare addressed all the Chief Ministers in this regard requesting them to devote personal attention and urging them to streamline the administration of the scheme for the speedier award of scholarships."

6.11. In the review (1967-68) conducted by the Research Unit of Department of Social Welfare on post-matric scholarship scheme, it has been stated:

"For the expeditious disposal of the scholarship cases, it is necessary that the State Department executing the scheme should have adequate staff for the purpose but the State Finance Department show their reluctance to sanction additional staff for processing the applications. Most States have therefore been pressing for re-imbursement of administrative expenses. It is likely that the cost of administration will be approximately 2 per cent of the total expenditure on the scheme.

This point was considered in the inter-departmental meeting held on 21st February, 1967. It was agreed of this meeting that the administrative charges should not be part of the expenditure incurred in connection with the scheme. It was, however, pointed out that in view of the tight financial position of the States, it would be desirable that the Centre undertakes to reimburse the State Governments the expenditure on additional staff to be employed by them to ensure speedy disposal of the post-matric scholarship cases. It was agreed that the State Governments should be allowed to include this expenditure in the State sector schemes for improving administration. However, the quantum of funds to be allowed as administrative expenses in the State Plan would have to be determined in consultation with the States, the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance."

6.12. During the course of evidence, the representative of the Department of Social Welfare has further elaborated the point as under:

"It is true that all these years many States have asked for the Central assistance for appointing this extra staff. But the point is that between the months of July and November

most of the work gets concentrated. So it it not the whole-time staff that is required here but only a part-time staff for this four months' period. When the applications come, they have got to be scrutinised and then scholarships amount disbursed. Most of the States, after discussions of the Annual Plans, have agreed that the need is not for the whole-time staff but for the part-time staff. When they have to disburse scholarships amount they collect extra staff from different places during this rush period, that is between July-November. For this there is really no need for extra permanent staff. That is why Central assistance has not been given to them. But, if the Committee would like to recommend that a certain percentage of the scholarship amount should be made available to State Governments towards meeting the expenditure of the extra staff, we would certainly consider that."

6.13. In reply to a further question that even renewal of scholarships took months together and whether Government had any scheme to give ad hoc grants to the Principals of the institutions to award scholarships till the renewal cases had been sanctioned, the representative of the Department of Social Welfare has stated:

"Renewal cases are far simpler and they are always given priority over the fresh cases. Also, if you see the application forms, you will find that renewal students are required to fill in very little; they are not required to do very much at all. Actually in State like Maharashtra and Assam, there is no renewal application and this system of advance has already been introduced in many States, notably Gujarat, Maharashtra and Kerala. We have already, at the Minister's level, written to the Chief Ministers that this advance system should be adopted by all the State Governments."

6.14. In reply to a question whether the students experienced any difficulty in getting caste certificates and scholarship forms, the representative of the Department of Social Welfare has stated:

"In the States they have one Government Press each and there are rules and regulations governing the printing. They cannot go to the private press unless and until the Government Press says that they cannot do the job. Government Presses normally do not say 'no' for printing the forms. There is a delay. If there is a delay, that is essentially of a local type. Probably the Director

concerned is not vigilent enough. If he were vigilent enough, he could have got over the delay. You may be aware that now the size of the application forms is also reduced. This should help us to prevent any difficulties that may be there."

6.15. Asked whether there is any objection to the students applying for scholarships on a plain or typewritten paper in the absence of printed forms, the representative of the Department of Social Welfare has stated that there is no regulation which lays down that they should not accept hand-written or typewritten application forms. The difficulty is for clerks to check up the particulars filled in the respective columns.

6.16. As regards the difficulty experience in getting caste certificates, the representative of the Department of Social Welfare has informed the Committee that previously the officers authorised to issue these certificates were few in number. Now even Members of Parliament, M.L.A.s and representatives of the Municipalities and other too have been authorised to give the certificates whenever they are approached by those students.

6.17. The Committee on Untouchability, Economic and Educational Development of the Scheduled Castes (Elayaperumal Committee) in their report had stated that out of 80,506 applications received in 1965-66 for the award of scholarships, 4,615 applications were rejected. They had observed in their Report.

> "The percentage of rejection is 5.7. The reasons for rejection of such a large number of applications are not furnished by the State Governments. It seems that the State Governments are not keeping records of such important matters."

6.18. The Committee desired to know whether there is any machinery at State level for maintaining any record of large percentage of rejection of applications and the primary causes of such a large percentage of rejections of applications for scholarships. The Department of Social Welfare have stated in a note: —

> "Statistically, the percentage of rejections (5.7) is within reasonable proportions. From experience, the rejections are attributable to the following reasons:—
>
> (a) Applications received after the prescribed time limit.

(b) Incomplete applications, where essential details have been omitted.

(c) Caste|Income certificates not obtained from prescribed authorities.

(d) Applications from persons whose caste|tribe is not scheduled.

(e) Fraudulent cases e.g. from those who have either failed more than once or those already in receipt of a State or Central scholarship.

(f) Other breaches of regulations.

The State Governments do maintain the records for verification whenever necessary. We do not call for any report on the reasons of rejection. Whenever any representation is received, however, it is promptly taken up with the State Government. If the reasoning given by the State Government does not seem to be correct with reference to the facts of the particular case, the State Government is advised to award the scholarship."

6.19. During the course of evidence, the representative of the Department of Social Welfare has admitted that there is always 5 per cent to 10 per cent wrong applications from any group of people. These applications have to be weeded out. Application forms are not accepted if the student does not produce a certificate of caste, income, etc. It has also been stated during the course of evidence that the Director of Social Welfare of Uttar Pradesh has adopted a procedure of returning defective applications to the concerned applicants with an objection momo pointing out the defect and the information lacking in the form and asking the applicants to re-submit their applications duly rectified. This obviates unnecessary delay or rejection.

**6.20. The Committee note that with a view to avoid delay in the disbursement of post-matric scholarships, the scheme was decentralised in 1959-60 and the administration of the scheme was transferred from the Ministry of Education to the Department of Social Welfare in January, 1968. The Committee are constrained to note that there have been inordinate delays in the disbursement of scholarships. The Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in his 16th Report (1966-67) has already invited the attention of the Government to the delays that take place in**

the disbursal of scholarships and has also suggested the steps that should be taken by the State Governments|Union Territories concerned to obviate such delays.

6.21. The Committee, in particular, would like to invite the attention of the Government to the suggestion made by the Commissioner in his 17th Report that " the authorities concerned in all States|Union Territories should issue suitable instructions to the various educational institutions to ensure that before the applications of Scheduled Caste|Tribe students are forwarded to the State Governments|Union Territory Governments|Administrations, these are thoroughly vetted and checked to ensure that they have been filled properly and are complete in all respects. And, if in any particular case, it is discovered later by the authorities concerned that the application form is not properly filled, it should not be rejected and instead the institutions concerned should be requested to fill it properly and the student granted the scholarship due to him." The Committee hope that the above suggestion of the Commissioner would be given the consideration that it deserves. They also commend for adoption the procedure which is being followed by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh in this regard.

6.22. The Committee note that there is no official machinery in the Department of Social Welfare to deal with complaints regarding delayed payment of scholarships and that such complaints are received by the Zonal Directors and the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Committee suggest that the Department of Social Welfare should set up a specific cell within the Department for receiving complaints regarding non-payment or delay in the payment of scholarships. In this connection, they would also invite the attention of the Government to the recommendation made by the Yardi Working Group that a cell should be set up in the Centre and in the States to obtain complete information about the number of students getting scholarships in each course, number appearing in the examinations and the number passing. The Committee hope that the cell suggested for receiving complaints would also be made responsible for collecting the type of information suggested by the Yardi Working Group.

6.23. While the Committee appreciate the steps taken by the Department of Social Welfare to bridge the time-gap between the receipt of applications and the award of scholarships, they would urge that vigorous steps should be taken in cooperation with the State Governments|Union Territory Administrations for expeditious disposal of applications. The Committee would like to reite-

**rate the recommendations of the Elayaperumal Committee that the students should be awarded the scholarships within 30 days on submission of applications. It is for the concerned departments in the States to devise methods for processing the applications and sanctioning them. The Department of Social Welfare should suggest suitable guide-lines to the States for their adoption.**

(ii) *Cases of students studying in States other than their own*

6.24. In reply to a question in Lok Sabha on the 22nd April, 1969 asking whether there was any proposal for introducing a scheme for direct reimbursement of inter-State scholarships to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students receiving education in States other than their own by the Central Government, it was stated that a pilot scheme budgeted for 1969-70 envisaging direct disbursement of inter-State post-Matric scholarships by a Central Government agency would be introduced in the Union Territory of Chandigarh.

6.25. The Committee wanted to know the details of the scheme and the measures of success of the pilot scheme as per first assessment made. The Department of Social Welfare has stated in a written note:

> "The pilot project for the direct disbursement of inter-State scholarships was taken up for implementation for the first time in 1969-70. It is confined to Chandigarh. Our Zonal Director has been given Rs. 5.00 lakhs to make payments directly to the inter-State cases. Only students belonging to the States/Union Territories in the Northern Zone (Punjab, Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh) and undergoing studies at Chandigarh will be covered. The Zonal Director will distribute the application forms to the students in the colleges at Chandigarh, guide them in filling up the application forms and will also collect the applications. Scholarships will be paid to the eligible students directly by the Zonal Director. As the academic session started only in July, 1969, it is too early to attempt any assessment of the success of this project."

**6.26. The Committee note that a pilot project for the direct disbursement of inter-State scholarships has been taken up for implementation in 1969-70 and the work has been entrusted to the Zonal Director posted at Chandigarh. The Committee hope that the experiment, if successful, would be gradually extended to other Zones.**

D. BASUMATARI,
*Chairman,*
*Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.*

NEW DELHI;
*December 9, 1969*
*Agrahayana 18, 1891 (Saka).*

# APPENDICES

## APPENDIX I

(*Vide* Para 2.1 of the Report)

(*Old Regulations*)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

*Seheme of Post-Matric Scholarships to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Denotified, Nomadic, Semi-nomadic Tribes and Lower Income Group Students for studies in India.*

REGULATIONS

**(1968-69)**

I. *Object*

The object of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Denotified, Nomadic, Semi-Nomadic Tribes and Lower Income Group students so as to enable them to complete their education.

II. *Scope*

These scholarships are available for studies in India only and are awarded by the Government of the State/Union Territory to which the applicant actually belongs *i.e.* permanently settled.

III. *Conditions of Eligibility*

(i) The scholarships are open to nationals of India only.

(ii) These scholarships will be given for the study of all recognised post-matriculation courses in the recognised institutions with the following exceptions:

Scholarships are not awarded for training courses like Air Craft Maintenance Engineer's course; courses at Training Ship Dufferin, courses of training at the Military College, Dehradun and also Pre-examination Training course at the Pre-examination training centres at Allahabad and Bangalore preparing students for I.A.S. etc. examination.

(iii) Only those candidates who belong to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes so specified in relation to the State/Union Territory

to which the applicant actually belongs *i.e.* permanently settled and denotified, nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes as recognised for this purpose or are covered under Lower Income Group as defined under Regulation VI(iii) and who have passed the Matriculation or any other equivalent examination or any higher examination of a recognised University or Board of Secondary Education will be eligible.

(iv) Candidates who after passing one stage of education are studying in the same stage of education in a different subject, *e.g.*, I.Sc. Jr. after I.A. Jr. or B. Com. after B.A. or M.A. or M. A. in one subject after M.A. in other subject will not be eligible.

(v) Candidates who, after having completed their educational career in one professional line continue professional studies in a different line, *i.e.* LL.B. after B.T./B.Ed. will not be be eligible.

(vi) Students studying in Class XI of the Higher Secondary School Course or the XII class of the Multipurpose High School will not be eligible being a continuous school course. However, in cases where the tenth class examination of such course is treated as equivalent to Matriculation and students who after passing tenth class join other courses, such students will be treated as post-matric students and will be eligible for the award of scholarships.

(vii) Students pursuing post-graduate courses in medicine will be eligible if they are not allowed to practice during the period of their course.

(viii) Candidates who after failing or passing the Undergraduate|graduate|Post-Graduate examination in Arts|Science|Commerce join any recognised professional diploma/degree course will be awarded scholarships if otherwise eligible. No subsequent failure will be condoned and no further change in the courses will be allowed.

(ix) Candidates who wish to pursue their studies through correspondence courses will not be eligible.

(x) A scholarship holder under this Scheme will not hold any other scholarship/stipend. If awarded any other scholarship of a higher value, the students can exercise his option for either of the two scholarships, whichever is beneficial to him, and should inform the awarding authority through the Head of the Institution about the option made. No scholarship will be paid to the student under this scheme from the date he|she accepts another scholarship|stipend.

The student can, however, accept a grant or monetary help from the State Government or any other source for the purchase of books, equipment or for meeting the expenses on board and lodging in addition to the scholarship amount paid under this scheme.

IV. *Tenability*

The scholarships are tanable for pursuing recognised courses in the recognised institutions only.

V. *Value of scholarship*

(i) The scholarship includes maintenance charges, fees and expenses on approved study tours and typing/printing of thesis. The details are given below:—

*Maintenance Charges*:

| Course of Study | Monthly Rates for those Residing in Hostels. | Monthly Rates for Day Scholars. |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| | Rs. | Rs. |
| Preparatory/Pre-University, I. Sc. I.A., I. Com. I.Sc. (Agr.) B.Sc., B.A., B. Com. Corresponnding Oriental Language/Fine Arts Courses . . . . . | 40 | 27 |
| M.Sc., M.A., M.Com., LLB., and Third Year Class in Hons. Courses, Corresponding Oriental Language/Fine Arts Courses . . . . . | 50 | 35 |
| D.Sc., D. Litt., Ph. D. . . . . | 60 | 45 |
| Diploma/Certificate courses in Agriculture, Veterinary Science Hygiene and Public Health Course, Sanitary Inspector's Course, Pre-Engineering, Pre-Medical Courses, Sub-officers course at the National Fire Service College Nagpur . . . . . | 40 | 27 |
| Diploma and Degree courses in Indian Medicine. | 40 | 27 |
| Teacher's Training and Physical Education : | | |
| (*a*) Under-graduate course | 40 | 27 |
| (*b*) Post-graduate course . . . . . | 50 | 35 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|---|
| B. Sc. (Agr.) B. V. Sc. Diploma Courses in Rural Services/Civil and Rural Engineering] . . . . . | 50 | 35 |
| Post-graduate Courses in Agriculture. Post Diploma Courses in Cooperation/Community Development . | 60 | 45 |
| Bachelor of Nursing and Bachelor of Pharmacy | 65 | 50 |
| Diploma/Certificate Courses in Engineering, Technology, Architecture, Medicine and Courses for Overseers, Draftsmen, Surveyor, Electrician, Tool Maker and Wireless Operator . . . . . | 65 | 50 |
| Degree Courses in Engineering, Technology, Architecture, Medicine and B. A. M. & S. or other similar courses, Master of Pharmacy . . . . . | 75 | 60 |
| Trade Courses, *e.g.*, Telegraphy, Book-Keeping, Short-hand, Typewriting, Tailoring, Tanning and Leather Goods Manufacture,etc. . . . . | *Ad hoc* financial assistance at the rate of Rs. 20/- p. m. (inclusive of fees). | |

*Fees*:

Scholars will be paid enrolment/registration, tuition, games, union, library, magazine, medical, examination and such other fees compulsorily payable by the scholar to the Institution or University/ Board. Refundable deposits like caution money, security deposit will, however, be excluded.

*Study Tours*:

Study tour charges upto a maximum of Rs. 100 per year limited to the actual expenditure incurred by the students on train/bus fares, tonga charges,etc., will be paid to the scholars studying professional courses, provided that the Head of the Institution certifies that study tour is essential for the scholar for the completion of his course of study.

*Thesis Typing|Printing Charges*

Thesis typing/printing charges upto a maximum of Rs. 100 will also be paid to research scholars on the recommendation of the Head of the Institution.

(ii) Scholars, who are entitled to free board and/or lodging will be paid maintenance charges at the following rates:—

| | |
|---|---|
| (*a*) Free Board and Lodging | 1/3rd at hosteller's rates. |
| (*b*) Free board | 1/3rd at hosteller's rates plus Rs. 5/- p.m. |
| (*c*) Free lodging | Full at hosteller's rates minus Rs. 5/-p.m. |

(iii) Students belonging to Scheduled Tribes will be paid full scholarship *but* in the cases of Scheduled Castes, denotified, nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes and Lower Income Group students as defined in Regulation VI(iii) the scholarship will be paid to the students according to the following *Means Test*:

| | |
|---|---|
| (*a*) In case of students whose parent/ guardians income from all sources does not exceed Rs. 300/-p.m. | Full scholarships. |
| (*b*) In case of students who are employed and have to support a family, the total income from all sources of the family including their own earing does not exceed Rs. 360/- p.m. | |
| (*c*) In case of students who are employed on a monthly income upto Rs. 60/- p. m. and have not to support a family | |
| (*d*) In case of students whose parents/guardians income from all sources exceeds Rs. 300/- p.m. but does not exceed Rs.400/- p.m. (But in case two or more children of the parents/ guardians falling under this income group are selected, the eldest will be awarded 2/3rds maintenance allowance while others will get the full amount) | Two-thirds maintenance charges and full fees. |
| (*e*) In case of students whose parents/ guradians income from all sources exceeds Rs. Rs. 400/- but does not exceed Rs. 500/-p.m. provided that the number of children receiving post-matriculation education is more than one. | Half maintenance charges and full fees. |
| (*f*) In case of students who are employed and have to support a family, the total income from all sources of the family including their own earning exceeds Rs. 360/- p. m. but does not exceed Rs. 475/- p.m. | |
| (*g*) In case of students who are employed on a monthly income exceeding Rs. 60/- p.m. but not exceeding Rs. 175/- p. m. and have not to support a family. | |
| (*h*) If the income of the parents/guardian from all sources exceeds Rs. 500/- p. m. | No scholarship |
| (*i*) If the student is the only child receiving post-m itric education of parents/ guardians whose income from all sources exceeds Rs. 400/- p.m. | |

(j) In the case of students who are employed and have to support a family, if the total income from all sources of the family including their won earning exceeds Rs. 475/- p.m.

(k) If the student is employed on a monthly income exceeding Rs. 175/- p. m. and has not to support a family.

} No Scholarship.

(iv) Normally the term 'hostel' is applicable to a common residential building and a common mess for the students run under the supervision of the educational institution authorities. In case the college authorities are unable to provide accommodation in the college hostel an"approved place of residence" can also be treated as a hostel for purposes of this Scheme. The place will be approved by the Head of the Institution after due inspection and keeping in view the rules and regulations laid down by the University, if any. In such cases a certificate to the effect that the student is residing in an approved place of residence as he is unable to get accommodation in the college hostel should be furnished by the Head of the Institution.

VI. *Selection of Candidates*

(i) All the eligible Scheduled Tribes candidates applying for these scholarships will be granted scholarships irrespective of the income of their parents/guardians.

(ii) All the eligible Scheduled Castes candidates will be given scholarships subject to the application of Means Test.

(iii) The scholarships for Lower Income Group students will be awarded on the basis of the total annual income from all sources of the parents/guardians of the applicant and not on the basis of caste. For this purpose the applicants will be divided into two slabs one with incomes upto Rs. 1500 per annum, and other with incomes over Rs. 1500 but not exceeding Rs. 2000 per annum, except in the case of technical degree courses (*e.g.* medical, engineering, agricultural and veterinary courses) where the limit may be Rs. 2,400 per annum.

Students from the first slab will be consdered first for the grant of scholarships, and if any amount is left over from the allotted funds, students from the second slab may be considered. The scholarships to the eligible students will be awarded on the base is that a student whose parents/guardians income is less gets precedence over the students whose parents/guardians income is more. In the highest slab of income which can be covered only partially with the limited funds at the disposal of the awarding authority, merit test may be applied.

(iv) In the case of candidates belonging to the denotified, nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes scholarships will be given on the basis of the same Means Test as has been laid down for the Scheduled Castes. Scholarships to the eligible students from the available funds will be awarded on the basis that a student whose parents/ guardians income is less gets precedence over the student whose parents/guardians income is more.

(v) Students of the other Backward Classes defined on caste-basis who were in receipt of scholarship in 1962-63 will continue to receive scholarships subject to the same conditions as were in force in that year, until they obtain the degree or diploma for which they are studying *e.g.* a student studying in the first year of the three year degree course in 1962-63 will continue to get a scholarship for another two years to enable him to complete his course.

(vi) Candidates belonging to one State but studying in an other State will be awarded scholarships by the State to which they belong and will submit their applications to the competent authorities in that State. In the matter of exemption from fees or other concessions also they will be treated as if they were studying in their own State.

VII. *Duration and Renewal of Awards*:

(i) The award once made will be tenable from the stage at which it is given to the completion of course subject to good conduct and regularity in attendance. It will be renewed from year to year provided that within a course which is continuous for a number of years, the scholar secures promotion to the next higher class irrespective of the fact whether such examinations are conducted by a University or the Institution.

(ii) If a Scheduled Caste|Scheduled Tribe scholar pursuing Medical and Engineering courses fails in the examination for the first time, the award may be renewed.

(iii) If a student belonging to Other Backward Classes who was already in receipt of scholarship during 1962-63 fails for the first time by less than 5 percent marks in Medical/Engineering courses, the award will be renewed.

(iv) If a scholar is unable to appear in the annual examination owing to illness the award may be renewed for the next academic year on submission of a medical certificate to the satisfaction of the Head of the Institution and on his certifying that the scholar would have passed had he appeared in the examination.

(v) If according to the Regulations of a University/Institution a student is promoted to the next higher class even though he may not have actually passed in lower class and is required to take examination of the junior class again after some time, he will be entitled to scholarship for the class to which he is promoted if the student is otherwise eligible for scholarship.

VIII. *Payments*

(i) Maintenance charges are payable from 1st April or from the month of admission, whichever is later, to the month in which the examination is completed at the end of the academic year (including maintenance during holidays) provided that if the scholar secures admission after the 20th day of a month, the payment will be made from the month following the month of admission.

(ii) In case of renewal of scholarships awarded in the previous year, maintenance charges will be paid from the month following the month upto which scholarship was paid in the previous year, if the course of study is continuous (*e.g.* from Intermediate Jr. to Intermediate Sr. Class).

(iii) All scholars are expected to purchase the necessary text books, stationery, etc., out of the maintenance allowance sanctioned. If it is reported by the Head of the concerned Institution that a scholar is without text-books, stationery, etc., the value of the scholarship may be reduced at the discretion of the authority sanctioning the scholarship.

(iv) The scholarship monies will be paid to the selected students by the Government of the State|Union Territory to which they belong in accordance with the procedure laid down by them in this regard.

(v) Scholarship will be paid for the period of internship|housemanship in the M.B.B.S. or a practical training in other courses, wherever compulsory, to obtain the degree|diploma|certificate of the course the student is studying subject to the condition laid down in Regulation III(x). Students undergoing such practical training must submit a certificate from the Head of the Institution that the practical training|internship is compulsory and forms an integral part of the course of study. The exact date of commencement of the training and the date on which it will be completed by the student should be indicated in that certificate alongwith the rate of remuneration, if any, that is received by the student.

IX. *Other Conditions for the Awards*

(i) The scholarship is dependent on the satisfactory progress and conduct of the scholar. If it is reported by the Head of the Institution at any time that a scholar has by reasons of his|her own act or default failed to make satisfactory progress or has been guilty of misconduct such as resorting to or participating in strikes, irregularity in attendance without the permission of the authorities concerned, etc., the authority sanctioning the scholarship may either cancel the scholarship or stop or withhold further payment for such period as it may think fit.

(ii) If a condidate is found to have obtained a scholarship by false statements, his|her scholarship will be cancelled forthwith and the amount of the scholarship paid will be recovered, at the discretion of the State Government. The student concerned will be black-listed and debarred for scholarship in any Scheme for ever.

(iii) A scholarship may be cancelled if the scholar changes the subject of the course of study for which the scholarship was originally awarded or changes the Institution of study, without the prior approval of the State Government. The Heads of Institution shall report such cases to them and stop payment of the scholarship money. The amount already paid may also be recovered at the discretion of the State Government.

(iv) A scholar is laible to refund the scholarship amount at the discretion of the State Government if during the course of the year the studies for which scholarship has been awarded are discontinued by him|her.

(v) The Regulations can be changed at any time at the discretion of the Government of India.

X. *Announcement of the Scheme*

All State Governments will announce in May-June the details of the scheme and invite applications by issuing an advertisement in the leading newspapers of the State. *All requests for application forms and other particulars should be addressed to the Government of the State|Union Territory* to which the student actually belongs. The applicant should submit the completed application to the prescribed authority before the last date prescribed for receipt of applications.

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XI. *Procedure for applyng*

(i) An application for scholarship should comprise:

(a) One copy of the application for scholarships in the prescribed form (separate application form have been prescribed for 'fresh' and 'renewal' scholarships);

(b) One copy of the passport size photograph with signatures of the student thereon (for Fresh Scholarships only);

(c) One attested copy each of certificates, displomas, degress, etc. in respect of all examinations passed;

(d) A certificate (in original) of caste and citizenship duly signed by a Member of Parliament|Member of State Legislature|Municipal Commissioner|Member of the District Board| Gazetted Officer| Specially authorised Officer. This certificate is to be submitted by Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes candidates);

(e) An income declaration by the parents|guardians and by the candidate if he is employed stating definitely income from all sources (for Scheduled Castes, denotified, nomadic and Semi-nomadic tribes candidates only);

(f) An income and citizenship certificate in the form prescribed by the State Government|Union Administration from the authorities prescribed for this purpose for candidates belonging to Lower Income Group; and

(g) A receipt in acknowledgement of the scholarship in the previous year on the form attached to the application duly countersigned by the Head of the Institution concerned, if the applicant was in receipt of a scholarship under this Scheme in the preceding year.

(ii) Applications complete in all respects shall be submitted to the Head of the Institution being attended or last attended by the candidate and shall be addressed to an Officer specified for this purpose by the State Government|Union Administration to which the student belongs in accordance with the instructions issued by them from time to time.

(iii) Incomplete applications or applications received after the prescribed date will not be considered.

## APPENDIX II

(*Vide* Para 2.3 of the Report)

*IMMEDIATE*

*(BY EXPRESS DELIVERY)*

No. 1|60|68 (RU) SCT-III,

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE

*New Delhi-1, the 29th May*, 1969.

To

All the State Governments and
U.T. Administrations.

SUBJECT: *Government of India Scheme of Post-Matric Scholarships to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Denotified Tribes, Nomadic, Semi-Nomadic and Lower Income Group students for studies in India.*

Sir,

I am directed to refer to Para 3 of this Department letter No. 1|60|68-RU, dated the 17th December, 1968 and to forward herewith a copy of the revised regulations of the above noted scheme (Appendix-III). These may be printed|cyclostyled for distribution to the candidates|institutions. The scheme is to continue during the Fourth Plan period.

2. A copy of the note on the principles to be observed in the implementation of the scheme by the awarding authorities in the States|Union Territory Administrations is also sent herewith (Annexure A of Appendix-III). These may be brought to the notice of all concerned.

3. As already intimated in this Department letters No. 9|29|68 (Pt) SCT-III, dated 25-1-69 to the State Governments No. 9|29|68 (vol. 2) SCT-III, dated 17-3-69 to the U.T. Administrations the

*expenditure* at 1968-69 level on these post-matric scholarships (including the fixed allotment for scholarships to the Denotified, Nomadic, Semi-nomadic Tribes and the Lower Income Group) stands committed to the non-Plan budgets of the State Governments|U.T. Administrations. Accordingly, from the year 1969-70 onwards, the expenditure upto 1968-69 level will be incurred by the State Governments from their non-Plan budgets, while the balance over and above this amount will be met by this Department. Administrative approvals intimating the outlay for 1969-70 have since been issued to the State Governments separately.

4. No grant will be payable by the Central Government from 1969-70 onwards for award of scholarships to the other economically backward classes (i.e. Denotified, Nomadic, Semi-nomadic Tribes and the Lower Income Group). The instructions laid down for the award of scholarships to these categories in the Revised Regulations are intended to serve as a model which the State Governments are free to adopt in awarding scholarships out of the provision existing for this purpose in their non-Plan budgets.

5. Scholarships of the students who were awarded scholarships last year, would be renewed at the old rates subject to fulfilment of the conditions laid down in Rule VII(i) and would not be subjected to the new slabs of means test laid down in Rule V(iii) of the Revised Regulations.

Yours faithfully,

(Sd.) M. P. RODRIGUES,

*Under Secretary to the Government of India.*

No. 1|60|68(RU)SCT-III, New Delhi-1, the 29th May, 1969.

Copy, with a copy of the enclosures forwarded to:—

1. The Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure), New Delhi with reference to their U.O. No. 22(1)SWL|69|1346, dated 14-5-69.

2. All the Directors of Harijan|Social Welfare etc., in the States|U.Ts. for necessary action.

3. All the Zonal Directors of Backward Classes Welfare, for their information.

4. All the Accountants General for their information.

5. The Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, New Delhi for information.

6. The Ministry of Home Affairs (Planning Cell) New Delhi with reference to this Department endt. No. 9|29|68 (Vol. II) dated 17-3-69.

7. The Planning Commission (S.P. Division), New Delhi.

8. Research Unit, Department of Social Welfare.

(Sd.) M. P. RODRIGUES,
*Under Secretary to the Government of India.*

## APPENDIX III

(*Vide* Para 2.3 of the Report)

(Revised Regulations)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE

*Scheme of Post-Matric Scholarships to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Denotified, Nomadic, Semi-nomadic Tribes and Lower Income Group Students for studies in India.*

REGULATIONS

(1969-70)

I. *Object*

The object of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Denotified, Nomadic, Semi-nomadic Tribes and Lower Income Group students so as to enable them to pursue post-matriculation education.

II. *Scope*

These scholarships are available for studies in India only and are awarded by the Government of the State|Union Territory to which the applicant actually belongs or permanently settled.

III. *Conditions of Eligibility*

(i) The scholarships are open to nationals of India who have not attained the age of 30 years on the date of joining the particular course of study for which the scholarship is sought.

(ii) These scholarships will be given for the study of recognised post-matriculation courses in the recognised institutions. Other courses will be considered individually and on merit.

(iii) Only those candidates who belong to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes so specified in relation to the State|Union Territory to which the applicant actually belongs are, permanently settled and denotified, nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes as recognised

for this purpose or are covered under Lower Income Group as defined under Regulation VI(iii) and who have passed the Matriculation or any other equivalent examination of a recognised University or Board of Secondary Education will be eligible.

(iv) Candidates who after passing one stage of education are studying in the same stage of education in a different subject, e.g., I.Sc. Jr. after I.A. Jr.; or B. Com. after B.A. or M.A.; or M.A. in one subject after M.A. in another subject will not be eligible.

(v) Candidates who, after failing or passing the under-graduate| graduate|post-graduate examination in Arts|Science|Commerce join any recognised professional certificate|diploma|degree courses will be awarded scholarship, if otherwise eligible. No subsequent failure will be condoned and no further change in the course will be allowed. However, the Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled Tribe, Denotified, Nomadic & Semi-nomadic Tribes candidates will get the benefit of Regulation VII(ii).

Candidates should note that having completed their educational career in one trade or professional line, they are expected to join that trade|profession. In case they want to go for higher studies in that trade or professional course they can apply for scholarship for such higher studies but not for any other academic|professional| trade course. However, a candidate having completed teaching professional courses or LL.B. would be eligible to apply for the study of academic course. A student who has only completed the academic courses of M.A.|M.Sc.|M.Com. can go in for research courses.

(vi) Students studying in Class XI of the Higher Secondary School Course or the XII class of the Multipurpose High School will not be eligible being a continuous school course. However, in case where the tenth class examination of such a course is treated as equivalent to Matriculation and students who after passing tenth class join other courses, such students will be treated as post-matric students and will be eligible for the award of scholarship.

(vii) Students pursuing post-graduate courses in medicine will be eligible if they are not allowed to practise during the period of their course.

(viii) Candidates who wish to pursue their studies through correspondence courses will not be eligible. However, those who want to purpose part-time courses will be eligible but in their case the normal rates of monthly maintenance charges will be reduced in proportion to the duration of the part-time course to that of full-time one.

Wherever students study part-time course (like LL.B.) along with a regular day-time course (like M.A.), the student will be paid scholarship only for one course. Option of selecting the course will be left to the student.

(ix) A scholarship holder under this scheme will not hold any other scholarship|stipend. If awarded any other scholarship|stipend, the student can exercise his|her option for either of the two scholarships, whichever is beneficial to him|her, and should inform the awarding authority through the head of the Institution about the option made. No scholarship will be paid to the student under this scheme from the date he|she accepts another scholarship|stipend.

The student can, however, accept a grant or monetary help from the State Government or any other source for the purchase of books, equipment or for meeting the expenses on board and lodging in addition to the scholarship amount paid under this scheme.

IV. **Tenability**

The scholarships are tenable for pursuing recognised courses in the recognised institutions only.

**V. Value of Scholarship**

(i) The scholarship includes maintenance charges, fees and expenses on approved study tours and typing|printing of thesis. The Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe scholarship holders will however, be paid a lump sum grant for fees, purchase of text books, stationery and other necessary equipment. The scholarship holders belonging to Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-nomadic Tribes and Lower Income Group are expected to purchase the necessary text books, stationery, etc. out of the maintenance charges sanctioned.

| Course of Study | Maintenance Charges | | Maximum ceilings of the annual block grant for fees, purchase of text books, stationery and equipment in the case of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Scholarship holders only |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Monthly rates for those residing in hostels | Monthly rates for day scholars | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | Rs. | Rs. | Rs. |
| (a) Preparatory/Pre-University/Pre-Engineering/Pre-Professional/Pre-Medical/I. A./I. Sc/I. Com./I.Sc. (Agri)./ B. Sc., B. A. B Com. and Corresponding Oriental Language/Fine Arts Courses, Under-graduate courses of Teachers Training and Physical Education ; Diploma/Degree courses in purely Indian medicine ; Diploma/Certificate courses in Agriculture, Veterinary Science, Hygiene and Public Health ; Cost and Works Accountancy ; Sanitary Inspector's Course ; Sub-Officers course at the National Fire Service College, Nagpur. | 40 | 27 | 300 |
| (b) M. A. ; M. Sc., ; M Com; Corresponding Oriental Language/Fine Arts Courses ; LLB., LL.M., ; post graduate courses in Teachers Training and Physical Education ; M. Lit., B. Sc. (Agr.) B. V. Sc ; Diploma courses in Rural Services/Civil and Rural Engineering. | 50 | 35 | 360 |
| (c) Ph.D., D. Sc., D. Litt., ; Post graduate courses in Agriculture ; Post-Diploma courses in Co-operation/Community Development. | 60 | 45 | 480 |
| (d) Diploma/Certificate courses in Engineering, Technology, Architecture, Medicine, Courses for Overseers and Draftsman, Surveyor, Electrician, Tool Maker, Wireless Operator ; Diploma course in Dairy Eng., Diploma courses of (i) Sound Recording and Sound Engineering and (ii) Motion Photography ; Bachelor of Pharmacy and Bachelor of Nursing. | 65 | 50 | 420 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---|---|---|---|
| (e) Degree and Post-graduate courses in Engineering, Technology, Architecture, Medicine ; Master of Pharmacy ; Master of Surgery ; Bachelor of Aurvedic Medicine and Surgery (B.A. M & S) or other similar mixed degree courses of Indian and Allopathy medicine. | 75 | 60 | 480 |
| (f) Trade courses, (e.g. Telegraphy, Book-keeping, Short-hand, Type-writing, Tailoring, Tanning and Leather Goods Manufacture, etc) | *Ad-hoc* financial assistance & Rs. 20/- per month (inclusive of fees). | | |

NOTE : I. The above list of courses is not an exhaustive but an indicative one to guide the awarding authority in determining the rate of maintenance charges etc. for various courses.

2. Books and fee allowance will be paid to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates in two instalments (2/3rd at the beginning of the course and 1/3rd in the middle of the course) to the Heads of Institution concerned, who will re-mburse to the scholars such amount on this account as they may, in their discretion, consider necessary.

*Fees*—Will not be paid to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes being covered in the block grants. Denotified, Nomadic, Semi-nomadic Tribes and Lower Income Group scholars will however be reimbursed enrolment|registration, tuition, games, union, library, magazine, medical, examination and such other fees compulsorily payable by the scholars to the Institution or University|Board. Refundable deposits like caution money, security deposits will, however, be excluded.

A fee could be treated as compulsory only when it is accounted for in the accounts of the college. Any charges that are not accounted for in the accounts of the college or are voluntary donations like building funds are excluded.

**Study Tours**

Study tours charges upto a miximum of Rs. 100|- per year limited to the actual expenditure incurred by the student on train|bus fares, tonga charges, incidental expenses like coolie charges and seat reservation charges and the hostel|Dharamshala|Waiting room rent which the student has to incur in connection with the journeys under taken, will be paid to the scholar studying professional courses, provided the Head of the Institution certifies that the study tour is essential for the scholar for the completion of his course of study. The student must submit the bill giving details of the expenses duly certified by the Head of the Institution.

**Thesis Typing|Printing charges**

Thesis typing|printing charges upto a maximum of Rs. 100 will be paid to research scholars on the recommendation of the Head of Institution. The scholar must submit a certificate from the Head of Institution to the effect that "the student is compulsorily required to submit typed|printed thesis for the course which he is studying and a sum of Rs. ..... would be sufficient to meet the typing|printing charges."

**V. (ii).**

Scholars who are entitled to free board and|or lodging, will be paid maintenance charges at the following rates:

| | |
|---|---|
| (*a*) Free board and lodging . | 1/3rd of hostellers rates. |
| (*b*) Free board . . . | 1/3rd of hosteller's rates plus Rs. 5. p. m. |
| (*c*) Free lodging . . . | Full of hosteller's rates minus Rs. 5 p.m. |

**V. (iii). Means test applicable to the Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes and Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribe candidates:**

| | |
|---|---|
| (*a*) If the income* does not exceed Rs. 360/- p.m. . . . | Full scholarship |
| (*b*) If the income* exceeds Rs.360/- but not Rs. 500/- p. m. . | Half maintenance charges and full fee/ grant. |
| (*c*) If the income* exceeds Rs. 500/- p.m. . . . . | No scholarship. |

*NOTE: 1. The income means the total income of the parents/guardians from all sources (and the income, if any, of the scholar from any source including salary, property, share etc. in his name or assigned to him) irrespective of whether it was salaried income or otherwise.

2. So long as either of the parents (or husband in the case of married unemployed girl students) are alive, only the income of the parent/husband (as the case may be) from all sources has to be taken and of no other members though they may be earning. In the form of income declaration (A), income is to be declared on this basis. Only in the cases where both the parents (or husband in the case of a married but unemployed girl student) have died, the income of the guardian who is supporting the student in his/her studies has to be taken.

V. (iv): Normally the term 'Hostel' is applicable to a common residential building and a common mess for the students run under the supervision of the educational institution authorities. In case the college authorities are unable to provide accommodation in the college hostel an "approved place of residence" can also be treated as a hostel for purposes of this scheme. The place will be approved

by the Head of the Institution after due inspection and keeping in view the rules and regulations laid down by the University, if any. In such cases a certificate to the effect that the student is residing in an approved place of residence as he is unable to get accommodation in the college hostel should be furnished by the Head of the Institution.

VI. *Selection of Candidates*

(i) All the eligible Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates will be given scholarships subjects to the means test prescribed in regulation V(iii).

(ii) For pursuing post-graduate courses the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates will be given scholarships provided they secured at least 45 per cent marks at the last qualifying examination.

(iii) The scholarships for Lower Income Group students will be awarded on the basis of the total annual income from all sources of the parents'|guardians' (including the students' earnings, if any) of the applicants. For this purpose, the students with incomes upto Rs. 2400 per annum and who secured at least 50 per cent marks at the last qualifying examination will be eligible to apply for scholarships meant for Lower Income Group. The scholarships to such eligible candidates will be awarded from the allotted funds strictly on poverty basis.

(iv) In the case of candidates belonging to the denotified, nomadic and semi-nomadic tribes scholarships will be given on the basis of the means and merit tests as have been laid down for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Scholarships to the eligible students from the basis that a student whose parents'|guardians' income (including the students' own earnings, if any) from all sources is less gets precedence over the student whose parents'| guardians income including the student's own earnings, if any) from all sources is more.

(v) Candidates belonging to one State but studying in another State will be awarded scholarships by the State to which they belong and will submit their applications to the competent authorities in that State. In the matter of exemption from fees or other concessions also they will be treated as if they were studying in their own State.

VII. *Duration and Renewal of Awards*

(i) The award once made will be tenable for the stage at which it is given to the completion of the course subject to good conduct

and regularity in attendance. It will be renewed from year to year provided that within a course which is continuous for a number of years, the scholar secures promotion to the next higher class irrespective of the fact whether such examinations are conducted by a University or the Institution. If a scholar fails to pass the annual examination of the Institute or any Public Final Examination, the scholarship will automatically cease and it will not be renewed (except under regulation VII(ii).) The scholar may, however, apply for a fresh scholarship again after passing that examination in a subsequent year.

(ii) If the Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribe scholar pursuing medical and engineering courses fails in the examination for the first time in the entire course of study involving extension of scholarship, the award may be renewed provided the student is required to attend the class as a regular student in the second session and the scholarship will be payable to such a student as a renewal case.

Failure in the suplementary|compartmental examination of that year will be included in the first failure and is not to be treated as second failure.

(iii) If a scholar is unable to appear in the annual examination owing to illness, the award may be renewed from the next academic year on submission of a medical certificate to the satisfaction of the Head of Institution and on this certifying that the scholar would have passed had he appeared in the examination and his attendance was satisfactory throughout the year.

(iv) If according to the Regulations of a University|Institution a student is promoted to the next higher class even though he may not have actually passed in lower class and is required to take examination of the junior class again after some time, he will be entitled to scholarship for the class to which he is promoted if the student is otherwise eligible for scholarship.

VIII. *Payments*

(i) Maintenance charges to the students who are awarded scholarships, are payable from the month of their joining the course of study to the month in which the annual|final examination is completed provided that if the student joins the course after the 20th day of a month, the payment will be made from the following months.

(ii) In case of renewal of scholarship awarded in the previous year, the maintenance charges will be paid from the month following the month upto which scholarsip was paid in the previous academic year, if the course of study is continuous (e.g. from Intermediate Jr. to Intermediate Sr.; B..E. 2nd year to B.E. 3rd year). Scholarship will also be payable to students studying such continuous courses in the summer|winter vacations following their course of study.

(iii) If it is reported by the Head of the concerned Institution that a scholar is without text-books, stationary, etc., the value of the scholarship|block grant may be reduced at the discretion of the authority sanctioning the scholarship.

(iv) The scholarship amount due in respect of the student upto the month in which the annual|final examination is held, will be paid through the Head of the Institution by the Government of the State|Union Territory to which he|she belongs in accordance with the procedure laid down by them in this regard. In the case of the death of a scholar, the scholarship amount due to him|her upto the end of the month the scholar has attended the Institution paid to the parents|guardians of the student through the Head of the Institution.

(v) Scholarship will be paid for the period of internship|housemanship in the M.B.B.S. or a practical training in other coures, wherever compulsory, to obtain the degree|diploma|certificate of the course the student is studying subject to the condition laid down in Regulation III (ix). Students undergoing such practical training must submit a certificate from the Head of the Institution that the practical training|intership is compulsory and forms an integral part of the course of study. The exact date of commencement of the training and the date by which it will be completed by the student should be indicated in that certificate along with the rate of stipend, if any, that is received by the student.

IX. *Other Conditions for the Awards*

(i) The scholarship is dependent on the satisfactory progress and conduct of the scholar. If it is reported by the Head of the Institution at any time that a scholar has by reasons of his|her own act or default failed to make satisfactory progress or has been guilty of misconduct such as resorting to or participating in strikes, irregularity in attendance without the permission if the authorities concerned. etc., the authority sanctioning the scholarship may either cancel the scholarship or stop or withhold further payment for such period as it may think fit.

(ii) If a candidate is found to have obtained a scholarship by false statements, his|her scholarship will be cancelled forthwith and the amount of the scholarship paid will be recovered, at the discretion of the awarding authority. The student concerned will be black-listed and debarred for scholarship under any scheme for ever, after such enquiries as the awarding authority desired proper. In all these matters the decision of the State Government|Union Territory Administration will be final and binding.

(iii) A scholarship may be cancelled if the scholar changes the subject of the course of study for which the scholarship was originally awarded or changes the Institution of study, without the prior approval of the awarding authority. The Head of the Institution shall report such cases to the awarding authority and stop payment of the scholarship amount. The amount already paid may also be recovered at the discretion of the awarding authority.

(iv) A scholar is liable to refund the scholarship amount at the discretion of the awarding authority if during the course of the year, the studies for which scholarship has been awarded are discontinued by him|her.

(v) The Regulations can be changed at any time at the discretion of the Government of India.

X *Announcement of the Scheme*

All State Governments|U.T. Administrations will announce in May-June the details of the scheme and invite applications by issuing an advertisement in the leading newspapers of the State|Union Territory. *All request for application forms and other particulars should be addressed to the Government of the State|Union Territory* to which the student actually belongs. The aplicant should submit the completed aplication to the prescribed authority before the last date prescribed for receipt of applications.

XI. *Procedure for Applying.*

(i) An application for scholarship should comprise:

(a) One copy of the aplication for scholarships in the prescribed form (separate application forms have been prescribed for 'fresh' and 'renewal' scholarships);

(b) One copy of the passport size photograph with signature of the student thereon (for fresh scholarships only);

(c) One attested copy each of certificates, diplomas, degrees, etc. in respect of all examinations passed;

(d) A certificate (in original) of caste and income in prescribed form signed by a Member of Parliament|Member of State Legislature|Member of the Zila parishads|Chief Executive Officers in charge of Municipal Committees|Corporations|such other officials as may be specifically authorised by the concerned State Government|Union Territory Administration for the purpose. (This certificate is to be submitted by the Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribe candidates at the time of applying for fresh Scholarship only. The Lower Income Group candidates are not required to furnish caste certificate but they have to furnish income certificate.)

(e) An income declaration by the parents|guardians|student (if he is employed) stating definitely income from all sources.

(f) A receipt in acknowledgement of the scholarship in the previous year on the form attached to the application duly countersigned by the Head of the Institution concerned, if the applicant was in receipt of a scholarship under this scheme in the preceding year.

(ii) Applications complete in all respects shall be submitted to the Head of the Institution being attended or last attended by the candidate and shall be addressed to an officer specified for this purpose by the State Government|Union Territory Administration to which the student belongs in accordance with the instructions issued by them from time to time.

(iii) Incomplete applications or applications received after the prescribed date will not be considered.

## Annexure A

### GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

### DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE

*Note on Principles to be observed by the awarding authorities in the implementation of the scheme of Post-Matric Scholarships to the Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, Denotified, Nomadic Semi-Nomadic Tribe and Lower Income Group students for studies in India.*

**I. Working of the Scheme**

(i) The State Governments|U.T. Administrations will award scholarships to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students under the scheme according to the instructions issued by the Government of India, Department of Social Welfare from time to time. No administrative expenses on the staff maintained for the purpose or on printing of the application forms etc. is to be met from the Central Grant given for award of these scholarships.

The instructions issued for award of scholarships to Denotified, Nomadic, Semi-nomadic Tribes and Lower Income Group students (who are to get scholarships from the non-plan budget of the States| U.Ts.) are only the model regulations on the basis of which the State Governments|U.T. Administrations may award scholarships.

(ii) In May-June every year the State Governments|U.T. Administrations should issue an advertisement in leading newspapers giving details of the schemes and invite applications from eligible candidates. Publicity may also be given to the Scheme through All India Radio and by issuing circulars to various institutions.

(iii) Arrangements should be made to get sufficient number of application forms and regulations printed|cyclostyled well in advance so that these could be supplied to the candidates|educational institutions as soon as the scheme has been advertised in the press as per instruction (ii) above.

All requests for application forms should be promptly attended to. The application forms should indicate the last date of submission of application and the name and address of the authority to which the completed application must be submitted. The names and addresses of the officers specially authorised by the State Government|Union Territory Administration for issuing caste and income certificates in the case of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribe candidates and income certificate in the case of Lower Income Group candidates must also be indicated in the application form. Wherever the application forms

and regulations are translated in Hindi or any regional language, their diglot edition (with English version) may be used so that the Heads of Institutions outside that State have no difficulty in understanding them.

(iv) All Heads of Institutions should be instructed to follow the time schedule for submission of applications. It should be impressed upon them that delay in this regard causes hardship to the students and defeat the very purpose of the scheme. They may also be asked to check caste certificates.

The services of the District Social|Harijan|Tribal Welfare Officers may be utilised in helping the students to fill up the application forms correctly and in collecting the applications from the various institutions of the District in time. For this purpose the officer concerned may be asked to prepare a schedule of visits to the various institutions of the District.

II. **Finalisation of Awards**

(i) Every effort should be made to ensure that there is no delay in the finalisations of the list of selected candidates. Applications of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates for renewal and fresh scholarships may be taken up first and decision announced say within a fortnight after the date of receipt of applications. Therefore, the cases of Denotified, Nomadic, Semi-Nomadic Tribes and Lower Income Group students be taken up in separate batch and decided as expeditiously as possible. The cases of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes need not be bracketted with the Denotified Nomadic, Semi-Nomadic Tribes and Lower Income Group students. All awards should be finalised by October 31, and announced.

(ii) Students belonging to one State but pursuing studies in another State will be considered at par with the students studying in their own States in the matter of award of scholarships and the exemption from the payment of tuition fees, etc. They will be awarded scholarships by the State to which they belong and will submit their applications to the competent authority in that State. The cases of such inter-State students may be attended on a top priority basis so that there are no delays in payment to these students.

(iii) Students who were awarded scholarships during the preceding year and are pursuing studies at the same stage of education in the succeeding year [e.g., those promoted to the I.A.|I.Ss. (Sr.) after passing I.A.|I.Ss. (Jr.); those promoted to B.E. (II Yr.) after passing B.E. (I.Yr.), Internship|Housemanship wherever compulsory,

after passing M.B.B.S., etc.] are to be treated as Renewal candidates and their scholarships are to be renewed, if they be otherwise eligible.

(iv) In slecting candidates for award of fresh scholarships the age limit and the means and merit tests, wherever applicable, be followed strictly.

Even though the Regulations do not prescribe a prior verification of caste and income certificate and income declaration, at least in doubtful cases there should be at least some verification before the award is actually made. The discretion to accept the declaration|certificate on face value should be judiciously exercised.

(v) The candidates belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes have to submit along with their applications an income declaration from the parents|guardians|students (if he|she is employed). The prescribed declaration form makes it clear that for the grant of scholarship in a particular year, the parents|guardians|students (if employed) has to indicate therein their total income from all sources for the year preceding the year for which the scholarship is sought. This provision of taking into account the income of the preceding year has been made because it is not feasible for anybody to foretell his|her total income for the year for which the scholarship is sought. However, in the case of candidates from fixed salaried income group, the current year's income may also be taken into account if it helps them in the matter of eligibility.

On receipt of the income declaration, the awarding authority will straightaway award the scholarship if the applicant is otherwise eligible for scholarship, subject, to necessary verification of correctness of income declaration later on. Such verification may be made in 10 to 20 per cent cases and in every case of doubt.

(vi) Scholarships to Lower Income Group students are open to all students irrespective of their caste who come within the income limit prescribed in Regulation No. VI (iii). The income may be taken to mean the income of the parents|guardian from all sources (including the scholar's earnings, if any, from salary, property, share, etc. in his name or assigned to him) irrespective of whether it was salaried income or otherwise. As it is not feasible to foretell the total income for the year for which the scholarship is sought, the income of the year preceding the year to which the scholarships pertains may be taken into account for the purpose of these scholarships. However in the cases of fixed salaried income group persons, the current year's income may also be considered if it helps them in the matter of eligibility.

For this purpose, the Lower Income Group candidates will have to submit one income certificate and an income declaration from the prescribed authorities as in the case of candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes.

(vii) To facilitate earlier award of scholarships to students belonging to the Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes, a list of all eligible applicants may be drawn on the basis of the income of their parents|guardians| students (if employed), a student from lower income getting preference over that from higher income. In the case of Lower Income Group candidates also such a list has to be prepared on poverty basis.

III. *Payment of Scholarships*

The State Governments may kindly evolve simplified procedures for payment of scholarships, *ad-hoc* advances, fees etc. in consultation with the State Accountant General so that the scholarship holders may get the payments in regular instalments. In States where the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students are not automatically exempted from payment of tuition and other fees to the Institution, the State Governments may consider the feasibility of introducing cards entitling the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students to get admission to the Institution of their choice without payment of tuition and other fees till their scholarship cases are decided. The examination fees should be paid to the scholarship holder well in advance of the last date of submitting the application for admission to the concerned University|Board examination. Instructions may also be issued to Heads of Institutions to make prompt payments and suitable action may be taken in case of deliberate delays.

The State Governments may also consider the feasibility of delegating power of sanctioning scholarships under this scheme to the Heads of both Government and private institutions in consultation with the State Accountant General. Atleast for delegating such power in renewal cases, the matter may kindly be examined promptly.

IV. *Submission of Progress Reports*

The first progress report should relate to the period April 1 to October 31, and should reach the Government of India, Department of Social Welfare before November 30 every year. The annual report should be fairly exhaustive and should give full details of the working of the scheme along with relevant statistical information (Pro-

forma at Annexure-B). This should reach this Department before April 30 every year. The State Government may make adequate arrangement to send these reports in time. Copies of these reports should also be sent to (1) the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, New Delhi and (2) the Zonal Director, Backward Classes Welfare of the concerned Zone.

V. *Particulars of Authority concerned with the Implementation of the scheme in the State|Union Territory.*

The full names, designation and full postal and telegraphic addresses of the officers concerned with the implementation of this scheme at the State Secretariat level and also at the Directorate level, if any, may please be communicated to the Government of India, Department of Social Welfare, at the beginning of every academic year, *i.e.*, in July-August, so that this Department could correspond at the appropriate level wherever necessary. Any changes in these particulars should invariably be intimated to this Department promptly.

## ANNEXURE—B

Government of India Scheme of Post-Matric Scholarships to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Economically Backward Classes students for studies in India—Report for the period April 1 to October 31, 19 .

Name of the State/U. T.———————— /April 1 to March 31, 19 .

| Category | Total No.of applicaitons received | | | No. of eligible students | | | No. of scholar-ships and awarded paid | | | Total expenditure incurred | | | Income limit covered | | Expedr. shown in Col. 13 met from | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Fresh | Renew-al | Total | Fresh | Renew-al | Total | Fresh | Renew-al | Total | Fresh | Renew-al | Total | Lowest annual income | Highest annual income | State Budget | Deptt. of Social Welfare |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| A. Scheduled Castes. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| B. Scheduled Tribes | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| C. *Others* | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (*i*) D.N. Ts. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (*ii*) Nomadic Tribes | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (*iii*) Semi-N.Ts. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (*iv*) Lower Income Group | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL (C) . . . | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| GRAND TOTAL . | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

NOTE : Full and complete information separately in respect of each category and each column may please be furnished.

## APPENDIX IV

(*Vide* Para 2.8 of the Report)

### New Scheme of Post-Matric Scholarships for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Students

*Copy of D.O. letter No. 5(2)|SCTC|69 dated the 4th July, 1969, from the Chairman, Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to the Minister of Law and Social Welfare Government of India, New Delhi.*

Dear Shri Menon,

The attention of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes which are currently examining the various schemes and measures taken by the Government of India for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, has been drawn to the new Regulations (1969-70), recently issued by the Department of Social Welfare, Government of India, containing the scheme of post-Matric scholarships to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes etc.

2. The Members of the Committee have taken serious objection to some of the new restrictions introduced in the regulations for the year 1969-70. They are also unhappy that the Committee have not been given the opportunity to examine the scheme prior to its introduction. You will no doubt realise that as the academic year has started and the scholarships etc. will have to be applied for and sanctioned soon, the Members feel that this matter should be taken up at the highest level immediately so that remedial action is taken at once, otherwise a large number of eligible scheduled castes and scheduled tribes students will be denied the opportunity of availing of these scholarships. The new restrictions now introduced are as follows:—

(i) In Regulation V (iii) (b) of the new regulations (copy enclosed for ready reference), it has now been provided that if the income exceeds Rs. 360 but not Rs. 500 per month, only half the maintenance charges would be granted. There was no such restriction in the earlier regulations.

(ii) In Regulation III (i), the scholarships are open to persons who have not attained the age of 30 years. This age restriction has been

newly introduced which will deprive many scheduled castes and scheduled tribes students the opportunities of further study.

(iii) In Regulation VI(ii), a condition of at least 45 percent marks at the last qualifying examination has been prescribed for post-graduate courses and under Regulation VI(iii), a condition of at least 50 percent marks at the last qualifying examination has been prescribed for low income group students. There were no such conditions in the previous regulations.

3. The Members of the Committee feel that keeping in view the conditions and environment in which the scheduled caste and scheduled tribe students live, it will almost be impossible for them to comply with the aforesaid conditions now laid down in the new regulations. If the Government really intend to help the scheduled caste and scheduled tribe students to avail of the facilities and opportunities available for further education, these new conditions must be withdrawn immediately and the position prevailing immediately before the introduction of the new regulations may be restored. You will no doubt appreciate that some of the new regulations also run counter to the recommendations made by the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Seventeenth Report (Paragraph 13.39).

4. I am sure, you will kindly give sympathetic consideration to this matter in the light of the feelings expressed by the Members of the Committee and also my own feelings, and have the necessary orders issued immediately. I shall greatly appreciate if you will kindly intimate the action taken in the matter for the information of the Committee.

With best regards.

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*Copy of D.L. letter No. Dy. PS|LM|2958|69(I), dated the* 3rd *August,* 1969 *from the Minister of Law and Social Welfare (Shri P. Govinda Menon), Government of India, New Delhi to the Chairman, Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.*

Dear Shri Basumatari,

Thank you for your letter of the 4th July regarding post-matric scholarships. As you may be aware, the matter was discussed in the Rajya Sabha last week, and I had agreed to stay the operation of the new regulations. State Governments and other authorities concerned have already been informed.

With kind regards.

*Copy of D.O. Letter No. 5(2)|SCTC|69 dated the 6th August, 1969 from the Chairman, Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to the Minister of Law and Social Welfare Government of India, New Delhi.*

Many thanks for your D.O. letter No. Dy. PS|LM|2958|*9(I) (F. 9|33|69-SCT.III) dated the 3rd August, 1969.

2. A sitting of the Parliamentary Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was held on 5-8-1969 to consider the new Scheme of Post-Matric Sholarships to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes etc. The Committee are glad to know that in response to Calling Attention Notice on the subject in Rajya Sabha on the 31st July, 1969, you have been pleased to announce the complete stay of the new Scheme of Post-Matric Sholarsrips till the matter is considered by the Parliamentary Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and you are also good enough to announce that you would agree to abide by the decision of the Committee on the matter.

3. The Committee are, however, surprised to know from the copy of the telegram No. 9|33|69-SCT.III dated the 31st July, 1969, issued by the Department of Social Welfare to all the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations that the "Decision regarding committed expenditure remains unchanged."

4. From the brief telegram it is not clear to the Committee as to the exact import of the aforesaid sentence in the intructions issued by the Department of Social Welfare. It appears that the amount of the expenditure on the Post-Matric Scholarships upto the level of 1968-69 shall have to be borne by the respective State Governments who already have to share 50 per cent of the expenditure to be incurred in connection with pre-Matric scholarships. If this interpretation is correct, the very object of staying the operation of the new Scheme for Post-Matric Scholarships will be completely nullfied. The Committee feel convinced that the staying of the operation of the new Scholarships scheme without taking over by the Central Government of the burden of meeting the entire expenditure from their own resources will not produce the desired results.

5. The Committee would, therefore, much appreciate if the exact implication of the above-referred sentence in the instructions issued by the Department of Social Welfare to the State Governments etc. is clarified so that the Committee may formulate their views on the matter.

With best regards,

*Copy of D.O. Letter No. Dy|PS|SM|3128|69 (I) dated 16.8.69 from the Minister of Law and Social Welfare to the Chairman, Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes*

Thanks for your letter dated 6.8.69.

I appreciate the concern of the Committee over the decision to commit the pre-IV Plan expenditure on post matric scholarships to the non-Plan budget of the State Governments. This decision was taken in accordance with the principles of planning and, at the instance of the Planning Commission and the Finance Ministry. This procedure is uniformly adopted with reference to all developmental sectors. There need, however, be no apprehension that the scholarship facilities will suffer curtailment consequent upon this 'commitment'. According to the established procedure, items which are 'committed' from Plan to non-Plan are taken into account by the Finance Commission while finalising proposals for the devolution of resources between the Centre and the States. In fact, we had agreed to this 'commitment' only subject to the understanding that the Finance Commission will specifically take note of this item of expenditure. The attention of the Finance Commission has also been drawn to this fact by the Planning Commission. The Finance Commission had collected from us the State-wise details of expenditure on post-matric scholarships. In other words, this is more a matter of budget classification and there need be no apprehension at this stage, of a stoppage of the scholarship facilities. It will be appreciated that since this was a decision taken in pursuance of a general policy of Finance Administration, it does not lie within my power to unilaterally revoke it.

The calling attention notice referred to by you related to the grant of scholarships according to the revised Regulations. The disagreement therein was with the changes introduced by us in the Regulations. Since that was a purely departmental matter, in response to the wishes of the Members of Parliament, I could readily agree to keep our orders in abeyance. The Scholarship Regulations do not, themselves, cover the devolution of Central grants to State or budgetting classification of expenditure. However, it is open to your Committee to go into this financial question also; and this is what I had in view when I said in the Rajya Sabha "this matter is now being considered by the Parliamentary Committee for the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and Government awaited their report on this matter and would be willing to consider the whole question in the light of the reports received."

With regards,

## APPENDIX V

(*Vide* Para 2.9 of the Report)

*Statement made by the Minister of Law and Social Welfare in the Rajya Sabha on 31st July, 1969 in reply to Calling Attention Notice by Sarvashri Man Singh Varma, Sundar Singh Bhandari and Shrimati Sarla Bhaduria regarding the grant of scholarships out of Central Grants to students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes joining colleges after matriculation*

The main points in the recent orders are:

(1) Students who enter a course after they have completed the age of 30 will not be eligible for new scholarships.

(2) The means test which already existed for scheduled castes has been extended to scheduled tribes. Previously there were 11 slabs of income specified in the orders and now it has been simplified to two slabs. Those whose income does not exceed Rs. 360 per mensem will get full scholarships and those whose income exceeds Rs. 360 but not Rs. 500 per mensem will be paid a block grant for their tuition fees and books etc. and half maintenance charges.

(3) A merit test of a minimum of 45 per cent marks has been introduced for post-Graduate scholarship.

These changes have been effected with a view to enhance substantially the rate of scholarship to the students. The object is to distribute the available resources for payment of scholarships in the most fruitful and effective manner. The total grant available for scholarships has not been reduced. This matter is now being considered by the Parliamentary Committee for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and Government awaits their report on this matter and would be willing to reconsider the whole question in the light of the reports received.

## APPENDIX VI

(*Vide* Para 3·1 of the Report)

*Expenditure on Government of India Post-matric Scholarships to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Categories of students*

| Year | Number of Scholarships awarded | | | Total | Expenditure incurred (in Rupees) | | | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Scheduled Castes | Scheduled Tribes | Other Categories | | Scheduled Castes | Scheduled Tribes | Other Categories | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 1944—45 | 114 | | | 114 | 47,696 | .. | | 47,697 |
| 1945—46 | 292 | .. | | 292 | 2,11,962 | | | 2,11,962 |
| 1946—47 | 527 | .. | | 527 | 4,70,397 | | .. | 4,70,397 |
| 1947—48 | 655 | .. | | 655 | 5,39,307 | .. | | 5,39,307 |
| 1948—49 | 647 | 84 | | 731 | 4,52,317 | 45,986 | .. | 4,98,303 |
| 1949—50 | 879 | 186 | 349 | 1,414 | 5,15,512 | 94,965 | 2,46,327 | 8,56,804 |
| 1950—51 | 1,316 | 348 | 517 | 2,181 | 7,26,651 | 1,85,301 | 3,57,504 | 12,69,456 |
| 1951—52 | 1,604 | 575 | 655 | 2,834 | 8,17,976 | 2,81,780 | 4,41,186 | 15,40,942 |
| 1952—53 | 3,404 | 1,093 | 1,947 | 6,444 | 14,35,551 | 5,22,452 | 10,94,264 | 30,52,267 |
| 1953—54 | 5,954 | 1,587 | 4,393 | 11,934 | 26,86,316 | 8,18,538 | 26,51,100 | 61,55,954 |
| 1954—55 | 10,034 | 2,356 | 8,268 | 20,658 | 45,80,498 | 12,37,733 | 49,70,769 | 107,89,000 |
| 1955—56 | 16,081 | 2,883 | 12,487 | 31,451 | 63,78,432 | 13,05,238 | 73,70,266 | 1,50,53,936 |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1956—57 | 21,744 | 3,482 | 14,259 | 39,485 | 87,98,891 | 15,77,850 | 83,51,641 | 1,87,28,382 |
| 1957—58 | 26,417 | 4,300 | 13,668 | 44,415 | 1,00,37,379 | 18,97,538 | 82,18,575 | 2,01,53,492 |
| 1958—59 | 32,551 | 4,821 | 12,590 | 49,962 | 1,25,86,130 | 20,76,206 | 76,49,338 | 2,23,11,674 |
| 1959—60 | 38,657 | 6,112 | 17,193 | 61,962 | 1,43,40,100 | 23,88,691 | 90,08,511 | 2,57,37,302 |
| 1960—61 | 42,071 | 6,877 | 14,421 | 63,369 | 1,67,82,412 | 30,95,814 | 87,97,490 | 2,86,75,716 |
| 1961—62 | 49,015 | 8,548 | 18,114 | 75,677 | 2,13,89,351 | 36,77,669 | 1,01,96,381 | 3,52,63,401 |
| 1962-63 | 55,580 | 10,249 | 20,510 | 86,339 | 2,67,55,812 | 44,36,927 | 1,00,20,249 | 4,12,12,988 |
| 1963—64 | 60,675 | 11,836 | 18,571 | 91,082 | 2,93,82,387 | 50,27,741 | 1,06,54,604 | 4,50,64,732 |
| 1964—65 | 75,146 | 13,500 | 15,207 | 1,03,853 | 3,41,16,043 | 60,62,640 | 92,84,428 | 4,94,63,111 |
| 1965—66 | 78,548 | 15,925 | 22,081 | 1,16,554 | 3,72,53,586 | 70,57,880 | 1,26,41,203 | 5,69,52,669 |
| 1966—67 | 90,264 | 17,760 | 23,640 | 1,31,664 | 4,37,66,443 | 88,83,622 | 1,27,96,088 | 6,49,46,153 |
| 1967—68 | 1,03,129 | 19,830 | 24,945 | 1,47,904 | 4,98,90,679 | 95,69,614 | 1,24,54,777 | 7,19,15,070 |
| 1968—69 | Progress reports not yet received from all the State Governents/Union Territory Administrations. | | | | | | | |

*Excluding J&K

(**Excluding J & K and Gujarat)

## APPENDIX VII

(*Vide* Para 3.3 of the Report)

*Statement showing State-Wise Distribution of Post- Matric Scholarship Awards to Scheduled Castes/Tribes during the last three years*

| Name of State | Year 1966-67 | | | | Year 1967-68 | | | | Year 1968-69 | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Sch. Castes | | Sch. Tribes | | Sch. Castes | | Sch. Tribes | | Sch. Castes | | Sch. Tribes | |
| | Awards | *Exp.Rs. | Awards | Exp. Rs. | Awards | *Exp. Rs. | Awards | *Exp.Rs. | Awards | *Exp.Rs. | Awards | *Exp. Rs. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 1. Andhra Pradesh | 5312 | 24·49 | 253 | 1·55 | 5667 | 30·48 | 286 | 1·70 | 7583 | 38·12 | N.A. | N.A. |
| 2. Assam | 2027 | 7·57 | 5813 | 22·54 | 2355 | 8·57 | 6492 | 24·82 | N.A. | N.A. | N.A. | N.A. |
| 3. Bihar | 4595 | 25·00 | 4538 | 23·57 | 6052 | 30·00 | 5884 | 3355 | N.A. | N.A. | N.A. | N.A. |
| 4. Gujarat | 3793 | 22·83 | 1317 | 8·09 | N.A. | N.A. | N.A. | N.A. | 4457 | 33·04 | 1363 | 11·78 |
| 5. Haryana | 258 | 1·00 | nil | nil. | 1672 | 6·99 | nil | nil | 1929 | 7·65 | Nil. | Nil. |
| 6. J. & K. | 215 | N.A. | nil | nil | 307 | N.A. | nil | nil | N.A. | N.A. | Nil. | Nil. |
| 7. Kerala | 2442 | 5·89 | 214 | 0 44 | 5213 | 19·31 | 103 | 0·77 | N.A. | N.A. | N.A. | N.A. |
| 8. Madhya Pradesh | 4018 | 16·04 | 1638 | 6·94 | 3780 | 15·27 | 1477 | 6·43 | N.A. | N.A. | N.A. | N.A. |
| 9. Maharashtra | 13264 | 86·22 | 628 | 4·21 | 15277 | 101·42 | 676 | 3·99 | N.A. | N.A. | N.A. | N.A. |
| 10. Mysore | 4016 | 21·76 | 68 | 0·43 | 4808 | 27·39 | 80 | 0·60 | 6400 | 33·70 | 116 | 0·62 |
| 1. Nagaland | Nil. | Nil. | 292 | 0·69 | Nil. | Nil. | 767 | 5·34 | Nil. | Nil. | N.A. | N.A. |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 12. Orissa . . . . . | 636 | 3·25 | 536 | 2·70 | 781 | 3·45 | 667 | 3·10 | 910 | 3·71 | 734 | 3·20 |
| 13. Punjab . . . | 5302 | 21·69 | 79 | 0·30 | 5176 | 21·06 | Nil. | Nil. | 6764 | 22·69 | Nil. | Nil. |
| 14. Rajasthan . | 1310 | 5·48 | 538 | 2·30 | 1767 | 7·97 | 749 | 3·25 | 1849 | 9·08 | 899 | 5·01 |
| 15. Tamil Nadu . | 5465 | 28·34 | 86 | 0·48 | 7575 | 38·44 | 98 | 0·60 | 9374 | 46·09 | 98 | 0·55 |
| 16. Uttar Pradesh . . | 24813 | 106·61 | Nil. | Nil | 29021 | 121·90 | 113 | 0·50 | N.A. | N.A. | N.A. | N.A. |
| 17. West Bengal. . . . | 11855 | 56·46 | 583 | 2·94 | 12351 | 59·80 | 696 | 3·52 | 14653 | 72·73 | 738 | 4·02 |

*NOTE : *Expenditure shown in Rs. in lakhs.
N.A.—Not available due to non-receipt of data so far from the State Govt.

## APPENDIX VIII

(*Vide* Para 3.3 of the Report)

*Statement showing the Expenditure incurred on Post-Matric Scholarships awarded to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the three Plan Periods.*

| Plan period. | Expenditure incurred | |
|---|---|---|
| | Scheduled Castes. | Scheduled Tribes. |
| | (Rs. in lakhs.) | |
| *First Plan* | | |
| 1951-52 . | 8·18 | 2·82 |
| 1952-53 . | 14·36 | 5·22 |
| 1953-54 . | 26·86 | 8·19 |
| 1954-55 . | 45·81 | 12·38 |
| 1955-56 . | 63·78 | 13·05 |
| TOTAL | 158·99 | 41·66 |
| *Second Plan* | | |
| 8956-57 . | 87·99 | 15·78 |
| 1957-58 . | 100·37 | 18·97 |
| 1958-59 . | 125·86 | 20·76 |
| 1959-60 . | 143·40 | 23·89 |
| 1960-61 . | 167·83 | 30·96 |
| TOTAL | 625·45 | 110·36 |
| *Third Plan* | | |
| 1961-62 . | 283·89 | 36·7 8 |
| 1962-63 . | 267·56 | 44·37 |
| 1963-64 . | 293·82 | 50·28 |
| 1964-65 . | 341·16 | 60·62 |
| 1965-66 . | 372·54 | 70·58 |
| TOTAL . . . . . | 1488·97 | 262·63 |

NOTE :—The entire expenditure on post-matric scholarships to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is met by the Central Government. That being so, the actual expenditure figures have been taken to represent the 'outlays'.

## APPENDIX IX.

(*Vide* Para 4.4 of the Report)

*Statement Showing the rates of Scholarships.*

| Course of Study | Value of Scholarships under the Backward Classes Post-Matric Scheme. | | | Total Value | | Value of scholarships per month under the | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Monthly maintenance charges | | Other concessions by way of fees, etc. approximate amount p.m. | Hostellers | Day Scholars. | National Loan Scholarships scheme | National Scholarships Scheme. | |
| | Hostellers | Day Scholars. | | | | | Hostelers | Day Schollars. |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| Pre-University/Inter/B.A./B.Sc. | 40 | 27 | 25 | 65 | 52 | 60 | 60*& 85† | 50*& 75† |
| M.A./M.Sc./M.Com. | 50 | 35 | 30 | 85 | 65 | 75 | 110 | 100 |
| Diploma/Certificate courses in Engineering, Medicine, Technology & architecture. . . . . | 65 | 50 | 35 | 95 | 85 | 60 | 110 | 100 |
| Degree Courses in Engineering, Medicine & Technology. | 75 | 60 | 40 | 115 | 100 | 81 (approx.) (Actual 970 p.a.) | 110 | 100 |
| Post-Graduate course in Engineering & Medicine. | 75 | 60 | 40 | 115 | 100 | 96 (approx.) (Actual 1150 p.a.) | No scholarships. | |

*Upto 1 Year B.A.

†For 2nd and 3rd Year B.A.

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ph. D./D. Lit. Research courses. | 60 | 45 | 40 | 100 | 85 in general courses. about 145 in Engg./ Technology/Medicine. (Actual 1750 p.a.) | 125 | No | Scholarships. |

## APPENDIX X

(*Vide* Para 5.14 of the Report)

*Comperative Statement showing the Graded Means Test Prescribed under the old Regulations and the Revised Regulations.*

| OLD REGULATIONS | | REVISED REGULATIONS | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *The graded means test prescribed for Scheduled castes* | | *The graded means test as now prescribed for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes* | |
| 1 | | 2 | |
| (a) In case of students whose parents/guardians income from all sources does not exceed Rs. 300/- p.m. | Full Scholarship. | (a) If the Income does not exceed Rs. 360/- p.m. | Full Scholarship. |
| (b) In case of students who are employed and have to support a family, the total income from all sources of the family including their own earning does not exceed Rs. 360/- p.m. | | (b) If the income exceeds Rs. 360/- but not Rs. 500/- p.m. | Half maintenance charges and full fee-block grant. |
| (c) In case of students who are employed on a monthly income upto Rs. 60/- p.m. and have not to support a family. | | (c) If the Income exceeds Rs. 500/- p.m. | No Scholarship. |
| (d) In case of students whose parents/guardianas income from all sources *exceeds* Rs. 300/- p.m. but does not exceed Rs. 400/- p.m. | Two-thirds maintenance charges and full fees. | | |
| (But in case two or more children of the parents/guardians falling under this income group are selected, the eldest will be awarded 2/3rds maintenance allowance while others will get the full amount.) | | | |
| (e) In case of students whose parents/guardians income from all sources exceeds Rs.400/- but does not exceed Rs. 500/- p. m. *provided that the number of children receiving post-matriculation education is more than one.* | | | |
| (f) In case of students who are employed and have to support a family, the total in- | Half maintenance charges and full fees. | | |

| 1 | 2 |
|---|---|
| come from all sources of the family including their own earning exceeds Rs. 360/- p.m. but does not exceeds Rs. 475/- p. m. | |
| (g) In case of students who are employed on a monthly income exceeding Rs. 60/- p.m. but not *exceeding Rs. 175 p.m. and have not to support a family* | |
| (h) If the income of the parents/ guardians from all sources exceeds Rs. 500/- p.m. | |
| (i) *If the student is the only child receiving post-matric education of parents/guardians whose income from all sources exceeds Rs. 400/- p.m.* | No Scholarship. |
| (j) In the case of students who are employed and have to support a family, if the total income from all the sources of the family including *their own earning exceeds Rs. 475/- p.m.* | |
| (k) If the student is employed on a monthly income *exceeding Rs. 175/- p.m. and has not to support a family.* | |

## APPENDIX XI

(*Vide* para 4 of Introduction)

*Summary of conclusion/Recommendations of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Report*

| Sl. No. | Reference to para No. in the Report | Summary of conclusions/ Recommendations |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1 | 3.22 | The Committee have given careful consideration to the implications of the treatment of the expenditure on the scheme for Post-Matric scholarships as non-Plan committed expenditure of the States up to the level of expenditure on the scheme in 1968-69. Whatever might have been the considerations with the Ministry of Finance or with the Planning Commission for introducing this change in the pattern of financing of this scheme, the Committee are of the view that this will jeopardise the educational interests of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe community. As the States will not be bound to make specific provisions up to a particular level for the award of Post-Matric Scholarships to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the Committee apprehend that the States, out of various considerations, may divert their resources to other projects which they might consider to be more urgent or more important. If this happens, the number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students receiving these Scholarships will go down considerably and this may retard the already none too satisfactory progress of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Committee, therefore, strongly urge that the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance should reconsider the matter and restore the same |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|---|
| | | pattern for financing the scheme of Post-Matric Scholarships for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students as existed prior to the year 1969-70. The Planning Commission and the Government of India have already agreed to meet the expenditure in excess of the level reached in 1968-69 on this scheme. After all, the level of expenditure on this scheme in 1968-69 was only to the tune of Rs. 7 crores. The Committee are anxious that not only the existing level of expenditure on the scheme of Post-Matric Scholarships for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be maintained in each State and Union Territory but that it should be considerably and suitably increased. The Committee therefore recommend that the necessary amounts required for awarding post-Matric scholarships to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be treated as a non-Plan committed expenditure of the Central Government. The scheme should continue to be treated as a Central scheme to be controlled and financed by the Central Government and to be operated by the State Governments. In this connection, the Committee note that the Department of Social Welfare have no objection to continue to operate the scheme as hithertofore provided the necessary funds are placed at their disposal. |
| 2 | 4.9 | The Committee are constrained to observe that while the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes had in his 1962-63 Report made a specific suggestion to the Government for increasing the rate of post-matric scholarships to meet the general rise in the cost of living, no positive action was taken by the Government in this direction, with the result that the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students, who are economically backward, continue to undergo great hardships in prosecuting their studies. Although a period of seven years has elapsed since the |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|---|
| | | Commissioner's Report, the question of enhancement of the rate of scholarships has not yet been finalised. The Committee, however, feel encouraged by the assurance given by the Minister of Law and Social Welfare in Parliament that there would be 100 per cent increase in the rate of scholarships for those undergoing technical courses and 50 per cent in the case of those pursuing academic courses. The Committee hope that the Ministry of Finance would give early clearance to the scheme so that it could be implemented without avoidable delay. |
| 3 | 4.10 | The Committee are in agreement with the views expressed by the Elayaperumal Committee that the rate of scholarship should be linked with the cost of living and a formula for the revision of scholarships should be worked out by implementing authorities taking into consideration all the prevailing conditions. |
| 4 | 5.21 | The Committee have considered the new regulations for the grant of post-matric scholarships and the conditions of eligibility contained therein. While the Committee appreciate that the cumbersome old system of 11 grades in the income slabs has been simplified and only three groups have been specified, they feel that there is scope for further liberalisation of the scheme so as to enable a larger number of poor and meritorious students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to pursue a course of higher studies after the matriculation stage. Considering the economic backwardness of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and also the rising cost of living, the Committee recommend that Government should grant full scholarships to those students whose parents'/guardians' income does not exceed Rs. 800 per month. Half maintenance charges and full fee grant should |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|---|
| | | be given to those students whose parents'\|guardians' income exceeds Rs. 800 but does not exceed Rs. 1200 per month. In the case of students whose parents'\|guardians' income exceeds Rs. 1200 p.m. no scholarship may be given. The Committee would also recommend that no income limit should be fixed in the case of students who desire to pursue post-graduate studies and research, as no such limitation exists in regard to the Government of India's National Scholarship Scheme and National Loan Scholarship Scheme. |
| 5 | 5.22 | The Committee are not convinced with the arguments advanced by the Department of Social Welfare for introducing an upper age-limit of 30 years to new scholarships. They do not agree with the conclusions arrived at by the Department of Social Welfare on the basis of stray cases stated to have been brought to their notice by the Government of West Bengal. The Committee feel that pursuit of courses like Homoeopathy, Law, Humanities, etc. by the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe persons in service cannot be regarded as misuse of the scholarships. Rather, the Committee are firmly of the opinion that the award of scholarships for these courses is both legitimate and proper. |
| 6 | 5.23 | The Committee are also unable to agree with the argument advanced by the Department of Social Welfare that the upper age-limit of 30 years is desirable because a candidate who is older than 30 years will normally be ineligible for Government service. People do not get educated merely to enter into Government service. An educated person has various avenues open to him to make a respectable living without entry into Government service. No statistics are available to the Committee as regards the number of |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|---|
| | | students above 30 years of age who have availed of post-matric scholarships. The Committee, however, feel that the number of such cases would be very low. The Committee, therefore, do not find any justification for introducing an upper age-limit so as to prevent a negligible percentage of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students of 30 years and above from pursuing a course of higher studies. The Committee would urge that this upper age-limit of 30 years should be removed altogether. |
| 7 | 5.24 | In regard to the introduction of merit test in new regulations (1969-70), the Committee are of the view that no restriction whatsoever should be imposed on the admission of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students to educational institutions or on grant of scholarships to them. The insistence on the requirement to obtain at least 45 per cent marks in the last qualifying examination for a post-graduate course is, in the opinion of the Committee, wholly unjustified. There is no bar to the employment under the Government of India or the Government of any State of a student who merely obtains pass marks in his qualifying examination. The Committee, therefore, are unable to understand why a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe student who graduates with less than 45 per cent marks should be debarred from the grant of scholarships for pursuing post-graduate studies. The Committee hope that the merit test in the new regulations, i.e. the requirement of 45 per cent marks at the last qualifying examination, will be done away with. |
| 8 | 5.25 | The Committee would also urge the Government to give urgent consideration to the recommendations made by the Yardi Working Group as well as the Elayaperumal Committee that the standard of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|---|
| | | students at pre-matric stage should be raised by providing coaching facilities so that there is no wastage or stagnation at the post-matric stage. |
| 9 | 6.20 | The Committee note that with a view to avoid delay in the disbursement of post-matric scholarships, the scheme was decentralised in 1959-60 and the administration of the scheme was transferred from the Ministry of Education to the Department of Social Welfare in January, 1968. The Committee are constrained to note that there have been inordinate delays in the disbursement of scholarships. The Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in his 16th Report (1966-67) has already invited the attention of the Government to the delays that take place in the disbursal of scholarships and has also suggested the steps that should be taken by the State Governments\|Union Territories concerned to obviate such delays. |
| 10 | 6.21 | The Committee, in particular, would like to invite the attention of the Government to the suggestion made by the Commissioner in his 17th Report that "the authorities concerned in all States\|Union Territories should issue suitable instructions to the various educational institutions to ensure that before the applications of Scheduled Caste\|Tribe students are forwarded to the State Governments\|Union Territory Governments\|Administrations, these are thoroughly vested and checked to ensure that they have been filled properly and are complete in all respects. And, if in any particular case, it is discovered later by the authorities concerned that the application form is not properly filled, it should not be rejected and instead the institutions concerned should be requested to fill it properly and the student granted the scholarship due to him." The Committee hope that the above suggestion of the |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|---|
| | | Commissioner would be given the consideration that it deserves. They also commend for adoption the procedure which is being followed by the State Goevrnment of Uttar Pradesh in this regard. |
| 11 | 6.22 | The Committee note that there is no official machinery in the Department of Social Welfare to deal with complaints regarding delayed payment of scholarships and that such complaints are received by the Zonal Directors and the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Committee suggest that the Department of Social Welfare should set up a specific cell within the Department for receiving complaints regarding non-payment or delay in the payment of scholarships. In this connection, they would also invite the attention of the Government to the recommendation made by the Yardi Working Group that a cell should be set up in the Centre and in the States to obtain complete information about the number of students getting scholarships in each course, number appearing in the examinations and the number passing. The Committee hope that the cell suggested for receiving complaints would also be made responsible for collecting the type of information suggested by the Yardi Working Group. |
| 12 | 6.23 | While the Committee appreciate the steps taken by the Department of Social Welfare to bridge the time-gap between the receipt of applications and the award of scholarships, they would urge that vigorous steps should be taken in cooperation with the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for expeditious disposal of applications. The Committee would like to reiterate the recommendations of the Elayaperumal Committee that the students should be |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|---|
| | | awarded the scholarships within 30 days on submission of applications. It is for the concerned departments in the States to devise suitable methods for processing the applications and sanctioning them. The Department of Social Welfare should suggest suitable guide-lines to the States for their adoption. |
| 13 | 6.26 | The Committee note that a pilot project for the direct disbursement of inter-State scholarships has been taken up for implementation in 1969-70 and the work has been entrusted to the Zonal Director posted at Chandigarh. The Committee hope that the experiment, if successful, would be gradually extended to other Zones. |

GMGIPND—LS II—2626 (aii) LS—17-12-69—1135.

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Published under Rule 382 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha (Fifth Edition) and printed by the General Manager, Government of India Press, Minto Road, New Delhi.